

TM
off

Desert

WESTERN TRAVEL / ADVENTURE / LIVING

FEBRUARY 1968

50c

ELEVEN DESERT TRIPS



Books make lasting Gifts

Order by Mail

Desert Magazine BOOK Shop

DIRECTORY OF SOUTHERN NEVADA PLACE NAMES by Walter Averett. Limited edition. 1300 entries. Includes obscure names of ghost towns and old mining camps. Hardcover. \$5.00.

WATER WITCHING by Earl Shannon. Entertaining and instructive, whether or not you accept water witching. Paperback. \$2.75.

A GUIDE TO WESTERN GHOST TOWNS by Lambert Florin. Includes maps and mileages of ghost towns in 15 western states. Large format, cardboard cover, \$2.25.

ANZA AND THE NORTHWEST FRONTIER OF NEW SPAIN by Bowman and Heizer. Explodes myth that Anza founded city of San Francisco and other interesting data related to Anza. Good early Californiana. Hardcover, \$8.75.

COOKING AND CAMPING IN THE DESERT by Choral Pepper, Foreword by Erle Stanley Gardner and special section on desert driving and surviving by Jack Pepper. A book to read cover-to-cover for anyone who travels back country roads. Up-to-date cooking ideas which bring gourmet fare into camp with little effort. 12-page section of exclusive desert camping photos with lots of ideas for places to go. Beautiful hardcover book, \$3.95.

CAMPING AND CLIMBING IN BAJA by John W. Robinson. Guide to the Sierra San Pedro Martir and Sierra Juarez of upper Baja California. Paper, \$2.95.

OLD-TIMERS OF SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA by Lester Reed. Recounts episodes of pioneers covering an area from Owens Lake to Anza-Borrego and from San Bernardino east to Twentynine Palms. Spiral-bound. \$5.95.

ARIZONA: GUIDE TO THE GRAND CANYON STATE. Newly revised and edited by Joseph Miller. Past and present covered. Highly recommended. 532 pages, illustrations and maps. \$7.95.

SAN DIEGO BACK COUNTRY 1901 by Gordon Stuart. Filled with local color and nostalgia for high-button shoes and shivarees. 241 pages, \$5.00.

HISTORIC SPOTS IN CALIFORNIA Revised by William N. Ables. Only complete guide to California landmarks with maps, photos and lively text covering both historical and modern eras. 639 pages, \$10.00.

BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL by Waterman L. Ormsby, a New York newspaperman who was the only through passenger on this first west-bound stage. Western Americana, 177 pages, \$4.50.

THE LIFE OF THE DESERT by Ann and Myron Sutton. Covers desert creatures, perennial water problems and how animals and plants survive. 231 pages, \$4.95.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK IN BAJA by Erle Stanley Gardner. About people and places in enchanting Baja California of Mexico. Colored photos, 368 pages, \$8.95.

HANDBOOK OF CRYSTAL AND MINERAL COLLECTING by William Sanborn. Describes environment typical of collection sites and physical properties of minerals and crystals. Paper, 81 pages, \$2.00.

REDIGGING THE WEST for old time bottles by Lynn Blumenstein. Photographs of over 700 bottles with articles that tell the story and a photograph of each. \$4.25.

WHEN ORDERING BOOKS PLEASE

Add 25 cents PER ORDER
(Not Each Book)
for handling and mailing

California residents add 5 percent sales tax, regardless of whether you are a Republican or Democrat.

Send check or money order to Desert Magazine Book Shop, Palm Desert, California 92260. Sorry, but we cannot accept charges or C.O.D. orders.

ALL OF MEXICO and Guatemala at low cost by Norman Ford. Excellent guide for do-it-yourself traveler. Paper. \$2.00.

THE CONQUEST OF APACHERIA by Dan L. Thrapp. Covers both sides of the early Arizona-Apache controversy. Hardcover, 403 pages, \$6.95.

EXPLORING JOSHUA TREE by Roger Mitchell. Excellent guide to Joshua Tree National Monument in Southern California. Paper. \$1.00.

PIONEER FORTS OF THE FAR WEST by Herbert Hart. Fourth in series, large format, illustrated with historical photos, good text. \$12.95.

THE MINING FRONTIER edited by Marvin Lewis. Collection of rare articles related to old West. Hardcover. \$4.95.

1200 BOTTLES PRICED by John C. Tibbitts. Updated edition of one of the best of the bottle books. \$4.50.

A FIELD GUIDE TO WESTERN REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS by Robert C. Stebbins. A Peterson Field guide. 207 species, 569 illustrations, 185 in full color, 192 maps. The best book of this type. Hardcover. \$4.95.

FIRE OVER YUMA by Peter Odens. Historical tales and anecdotes from the Lower Colorado River area. Paper. \$1.00.

ANTIQUE BOTTLES by Marvin and Helen Davis. Paperback, full color, 62 pages, \$3.00.

CALIFORNIA, A Guide to the Golden State. Edited by Harry Hansen and newly revised, it contains an encyclopedia of facts from early days up to the Space Age. Mile by mile descriptions to camping spots and commercial accommodations. Maps. Hardcover, \$7.95.

DEATH VALLEY BOOKS

Published by the Death Valley '49ers these four volumes have been selected by '49ers as outstanding works on the history of Death Valley. All are durable paperback on slick stock.

A NATURALIST'S DEATH VALLEY (Revised edition) by Edmund C. Jaeger, ScD.....\$1.50

MANLY AND DEATH VALLEY. Symbols of Destiny, by Ardis Manly Walker\$1.25

GOODBYE, DEATH VALLEY! The story of the Jayhawker Party, by L. Burr Belden.....\$1.50

CAMELS AND SURVEYORS IN DEATH VALLEY By Arthur Woodward\$2.00

DEATH VALLEY TALES by 10 different authors\$1.25

THE MYSTERIOUS WEST by Brad Williams and Choral Pepper. Rare book examines legends that cannot be proven true, nor untrue. New evidence presented in many cases which may change the history of the West. Hardcover. \$5.95.

ANZA-BORREGO DESERT GUIDE by Horace Parker. Second edition of this well-illustrated and documented book is enlarged considerably. Tops among guidebooks, it is equally recommended for research material in an area that was crossed by Anza, Kit Carson, the Mormon Battalion, '49ers, Railroad Survey parties, Pegleg Smith, the Jackass Mail, Butterfield Stage, and today's adventurous tourists. 139 pages, cardboard cover, \$2.95.

ON DESERT TRAILS by Randall Henderson, founder and publisher of Desert Magazine for 23 years. One of the first good writers to reveal the beauty of the mysterious desert areas. Henderson's experiences, combined with his comments on the desert of yesterday and today, make this a MUST for those who really want to understand the desert. 375 pages, illustrated. Hardcover. \$5.00.

RARE MAP REPRODUCTIONS from the year 1886. Series I includes three maps, Arizona, California and Nevada. Series II includes New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. Reproduced on fine paper. They show old towns, mines, springs and trails now extinct. Each set of three, \$3.75. Be sure to state series number with order.

THE NEVADA ADVENTURE, a History by James Hulse. Covers era from prehistoric Indians to ranching, atomic testing and tourism of today. 306 pages, \$7.50.

NEVADA'S TURBULENT YESTERDAYS by Don Ashbaugh. The best book about Nevada's ghost towns and the rugged individuals who built them. 346 pages, \$7.50.

GUIDE TO COINS. Recent U.S. coin prices, Canadian, Mexican and foreign coins, medals, tokens and emergency money, Colonial, Territorial, and Civil War coins. Hardcover. \$3.50.

THE HOME BOOK OF WESTERN HUMOR edited by Phillip Ault. Collection of old and new anecdotes about the West. Worthwhile gift. Hardcover. \$7.50.

RELACIONES by Zarate Salmeron. Written by 17th century Franciscan and is only source of knowledge published for Spanish explorations into Arizona and New Mexico from 1538 to 1626. 121 pages, \$6.00.

NATIVE SHRUBS of Southern California by Peter H. Raven. Well illustrated, some in color, with interesting text and descriptions of shrubs. Paper. \$1.95.

NAVAJO RUGS, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE by Gilbert S. Maxwell. Concerns the history, legends and descriptions of Navajo rugs. Full color photos. Paper, \$2.00.

OLD CALIFORNIA MINES (1899) by Charles Yale. Reprint from early mining industry records. Photos show different types of mining, mainly in Mother Lode country. Text contains statistics and discussions of early problems \$2.00.

EXPLORING CALIFORNIA BYWAYS from Kings Canyon to the Mexican Border by Russ Leada-brand. Maps for each trip with photographs, historical information, recreational facilities, campsites, hiking trails, etc. Paper, 165 pages, \$1.95.

Desert

Volume 31

Number 2

FEBRUARY, 1968

JACK PEPPER
Publisher

CHORAL PEPPER
Editor

ELTA SHIVELY
Executive Secretary

MARVEL BARRETT
Business

AL MERRYMAN
Staff Artist

JACK DELANEY
Staff Writer

EDITORIAL OFFICES: 74-109 Larrea, Palm Desert, California 92260. Area Code 714 346-8144. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs not accompanied by self addressed, stamped and zip coded envelopes will NOT be returned.

ADVERTISING OFFICES: James March & Associates Inc., 1709 West 8th Street, Los Angeles, California 90017, HUbbard 3-0561—115 New Montgomery, San Francisco, California 94105, DOuglas 2-4994. Listed in Standard Rate & Data.

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT: 74-109 Larrea, Palm Desert, California 92260. Area Code 714 346-8144. DESERT MAGAZINE is published monthly: 1 year, \$5.00; 2 years, \$9.50; 3 years, \$13.00. Foreign subscribers add 75 cents for postage. See Subscription Order Form in back of this issue.

DESERT is published monthly by Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. Second Class Postage paid at Palm Desert, Calif. and at additional mailing offices under Act of March 3, 1879. Title registered NO. 358865 in U. S. Patent Office, and contents copyrighted 1968 by Desert Magazine. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs cannot be returned or acknowledged unless full return postage is enclosed. Permission to reproduce contents must be secured from the editor in writing. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year in U.S., Canada and Mexico. \$5.75 elsewhere. Allow five weeks for change of address. Be sure to send both old and new address.

THE COVER

Although winter remains in most parts of the nation, the first flowers will soon bloom in the lower desert areas. Prickly cholla and brittlebush are among others that will soon brighten the desert. Photo by Don Valentine, Whittier, California.

CONTENTS

- 4 New Books
- 6 The Rugged Rogue
By MARYELLEN GARVEY
- 8 Treasure and Art in Pinto Wash
By TED HANEY
- 10 The Town History Forgot
By LEE LUCAS
- 12 Trip to a Tough Town
By GEORGE HOLLISTER
- 14 Phantastic Phoenix
By JACK DELANEY
- 16 St. Moses, the Black Desert Father
By MARTIN PORRES WALSH, D.O.
- 17 They are Carefree at Cave Creek
By MARY BONNELL
- 18 Arbuckle Brothers
By LES BEITZ
- 19 Weekend Prospectors
By CARL FISCHER
- 21 Enchantment at Chiricachua
BY STEVE SHERMAN
- 22 Inside China Lake
By ROGER MITCHELL
- 26 Hard Cash Saloon
By H. C. HENDERSON
- 30 A Mecca, Not a Mirage
By LAURA RAEF
- 32 Pegleg, the Fourth
By RETTA EWERS
- 34 Short Trip to Baja
By JUDITH RICHARDSON
- 36 Johnnie, Nevada
By LAMBERT FLORIN
- 38 Back Country Travel
- 42 DESERT Cookery
By LUCILLE I. CARLESON
- 43 Letters

BOOK REVIEWS

Books reviewed may be ordered from the DESERT Magazine Book Order Department, Palm Desert, California 92260. Please include 25c for handling. California residents must add 5% sales tax. Enclose payment with order.

SKY ISLAND

By Weldon F. Heald

Written by a man who, with his wife, left the pressures of Southern California to live in Arizona's back country, this is a sensitively written, informative book of their experiences with climate, wild life, unusual guests, fantastic terrain and fantastic vegetation such as can be found only in the remote Chiricahua area where they established their non-working ranch. What this couple discovered in wilderness living was that they had not escaped from reality, but had escaped to it. Underlying the whole narrative is the philosophy of Thoreau—that "in wilderness is the preservation of the world."

The country in which the Healds settled has a history as wild as its terrain. Geronimo spent his last days here. Rustlers, desperados and mining towns came and went. One chapter of the book, destined to be a favorite with many readers, concerns the Buried Treasure of the Chiricahuas, a lost treasure tale that Heald first recounted for DESERT Magazine some years ago. Collectors of Western Americana will value this book, as will others interested in vicariously sharing the Healds unusual way of life. Hardcover, illustrated with black and white photos. \$5.95.

A TRAGIC FOOTNOTE: WELDON HEALD PASSED AWAY OF A HEART ATTACK SHORTLY BEFORE HIS BOOK APPEARED IN PRINT.

FABULOUS MEXICO Where Everything Costs Less

By Norman Ford

This has long been one of this reviewer's favorite informative books on Mexico and now it is completely revised and updated, so throw away your old copy. The author and his wife spent the past year living in and covering all of Mexico in order to practically rewrite the book and still retain its former format. Investing, vacationing and retiring prospects are covered with consideration for future development, bargains, climatic conditions

in various places and perils as well as advantages to settling in them. According to the author, the average investment in Mexico today yields 9%, with safety comparable to similar investments in the U.S. Almost all dividends and interest are paid tax free and most fixed income securities pay interest monthly. This little book, written by a thoroughly reliable writer of long standing, tells you how to evaluate such investments and where to find them. For vacationists, the going rate for rentals of both apartment and houses—as well as hotels in every area of Mexico—is listed, along with the names and addresses of reliable brokers. Paperback, 142 pages, \$1.50.

DESERT GARDENING

By the editors of *Sunset Books*

Written exclusively for desert gardeners, this book is climate zoned with maps pinpointing five diverse desert zones. Whether you wish to join with the desert in utilizing native plants which survive in drought conditions, or whether you prefer to create a controlled oasis of non-native plants, particulars relative to mixtures of soil, sunlight, water, air, cold and heat are discussed. A special calendar presents plans for care of plantings throughout the year.

The book also gives ideas for planting and caring for trees, shrubs, succulents, cacti, palms, cycads, citrus, seasonal flowers and vegetables, perennials, bulbs, pool plantings green lawns and ground covers. Illustrated with black and white photos. Large format, paperback. \$1.95.

THE RISING TIDE

By Richard F. Pourade

Sixth in a series of books commissioned by James Copley of the Copley Press which recount the history of Southern California. This one covers the boom and the bust of the twenties and the thirties. It tells about San Diego's early citizens who planned the city, built hotels and developed land—Spreckles, Bridges, Marston, Burnham, Copley and others. It tells of the fishing industry, the aircraft industry, the U.S. Navy, dams, fairs, parks and all of the developments which, put together, make San Diego today one of the most beautiful, exotic and interesting cities in the nation.

This entire series is splendid. The books are large format, well-illustrated

and brilliantly written by one of Southern California's finest historians. Hardcover, 267 pages, \$9.50.

THE DESERT LAKE

By Sessions S. Wheeler

This is the story of Nevada's intriguing Pyramid Lake. A remnant of ancient Lake Lahontan, this picturesque body of water is surrounded with oddly shaped tufa formations which thousands of years ago sheltered an ancient civilization. Later came the Northern Paiutes, whose reservation includes Pyramid Lake. Covering regional history, archeological findings, ancient cultures, geology, fish and bird life, this well-illustrated paperback contributes to a broader scope of interest than its title implies.

Of particular interest to fishermen is the story of the rare cui-ui, a member of the sucker family that weighs up to nine pounds and is found only in Pyramid Lake. They must be caught with snag hooks and offer great sport during their spawning migration when they surface. At other times they remain so deep in the lake that fish smaller than 12-inches have never been captured.

Nevada researchers will welcome this book. \$1.95.

ANOTHER WILDERNESS CONQUERED

By Grady Setzler

Here is an informal history of Blythe and Palo Verde Valley, California, written by the former editor and publisher of the Palo Verde Valley Times. Because Ehrenberg, Arizona, across the Colorado River, was the post office for this isolated area, the book has chapters covering persons and historical incidents that took place at La Paz, Ehrenberg, and other ghost towns on the Arizona side. Reprints from books now out of print, such as excerpts from *Vanished Arizona* by Martha Summerhayes, as well as out-of-print DESERT Magazine articles and manuscripts by old-timers now deceased make this area history a real treasure for historians and collectors of Western Americana. Much of the material included has appeared only in the local Palo Verde Valley Times and would have been lost to history had not this author dedicated himself to putting it into book form. Privately printed. Hardcover, 152 pages, illustrated with valuable historical photos. \$5.50.

FIND BURIED TREASURE!

10 - DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

TREASURE PROBE

ALL TRANSISTORIZED

\$18⁸⁸

LOOK AT THESE OUTSTANDING FEATURES

1. Uses three Silicon Planar transistors.
2. Five-inch Search Coil with depth range to 18 inches.
3. Completely wired (not a kit).
4. Thumbwheel tuner for one-hand operation.
5. 9-volt transistor battery included with each unit.
6. 8-ohm magnetic plug-in earphone included with each unit.
7. Attractively styled streamlined high impact molded case and search coil with gold anodized aluminum search coil rods.
8. Weight under 1 1/2 pounds.
9. Two separate colpitts oscillators each utilizing printed circuit board construction.



NEVER BEFORE AT SUCH A LOW PRICE — \$18.88
10 DAY UNCONDITIONAL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

NOW, for the first time all of America can thrill to the golden dream of buried treasure in real life! A true scientific electronic instrument, transistorized, streamlined, amazingly sensitive, it exceeds many high priced units in its finding ability. It is light enough for even a five year old, and sensitive enough for weekend adult treasure finders! Sturdy, foolproof, high impact molded case and detection search coil, the Treasureprobe uses high temperature silicon transistors, one common 9-volt transistor radio battery powers it and produces a strong electromagnetic field which alters as the search coil passes over hidden metal resulting in a loud squeal at the earphone. The Treasureprobe will find large metal objects, chests, weapons, artifacts buried several feet in the ground. It will find small objects buried up to several inches. It finds all kinds of precious and common metals... gold, silver, bronze, nickel, copper and iron.

ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING HOBBIES

Electronic treasure finding has become a fabulous hobby! Everywhere in the country there are valuable and fascinating things to be found hidden by just a few inches of topsoil, sand, vegetable matter or gravel. Metal buttons, weapons, and insignia are found on Civil War and Indian battlefields. Gold nuggets are found in the dry washes of the Sierra mountains and throughout the Mother Lode country. Millions of dollars worth of lost old coins are still to be found... in the sands of thousands of beaches, in the earth of old circus lots, in the foundations of old buildings, old farm houses, even in the grass of the national parks. Test it yourself with a coin under the rug. Treasureprobe will also find modern lost items... the

fountain pen in the grass, lighters, jewelry... day or night. It will find buried pipes and conduits. Treasureprobe is fun, it's useful, its appeal is universal. Its price is right!!

PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

The Treasureprobe operates by comparing the frequencies of two colpitts oscillators and amplifying the audio frequency which is the sum of the difference. The fixed oscillator is in the molded handle of the Treasureprobe, and is controlled by the thumbwheel tuner. The variable oscillator is in the search coil and changes its inductance when the search coil is brought into close proximity of any metal. This difference when amplified is heard in the earphone as an audio signal tone.

TO ORDER

Send check, cash, or money order, \$5.00 deposit for C.O.D. In N.J., add 3% state tax. 10-day money back guarantee.

TREASUREPROBE, Box 228, Dept. DAA, Toms River, N. J. 08753

Enclosed is \$..... Please send Treasureprobes at the low price of \$18.88 each post paid.

Name

Address

City and State Zip Code

Western Events

Information on Western Events must be received at DESERT six weeks prior to scheduled date.

ORANGE COAST MINERAL AND LAPIDARY SOCIETY'S 1968 Gem Show, Feb. 3 & 4, Orange County Fair Grounds, Costa Mesa, Calif. Parking and admission free.

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS annual convention, Feb. 3 & 4, Hacienda Hotel, Fresno, Calif. Speakers, food and lots of fun. Contact Mrs. Sylvia Neely, chairman, P. O. Box 5001, Sacramento, Calif.

YUMA TREASURE FESTIVAL sponsored by the Yuma Coin Club, Feb. 16 through 18. Coin show with exhibits and displays. Special Gun Show. For details write Yuma Coin Club, c/o Chamber of Commerce, 200 West First St., Yuma, Ariz. 83564.

SAN DIEGO'S TIERRA DEL SOL 4WD CLUB'S 6th annual Desert Safari, Feb. 24 & 25, Borrego Desert Badlands. Family cross country event, all four wheelers welcome. For information write Tierra Del Sol 4WD, 5083 Conrad Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92117.

PHOENIX GEM & MINERAL SHOW, March 1 through 3, Arizona State Fair Grounds, Phoenix, Ariz. Rockhounds and all persons interested in the outdoors are invited.

MONROVIA ROCKHOUNDS 9th annual Gem & Mineral Show, March 9 & 10, Masonic Temple, 204 Foothill, Monrovia, Calif.

LOS ANGELES LAPIDARY SOCIETY'S 28th annual St. Patrick's Gemoree, March 16 & 17, Cheviot Hills Playground Center, 2551 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles. Public invited.

FOURTH ANNUAL NATIONAL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE GRAND PRIX, April 7 through 10, Riverside, Calif. Open to 4-wheel drives, dune buggies, motorcycles. For entries write Vic Wilson, P. O. Box 301, Fullerton, Calif. Event held on Santa Ana River bottom at the Van Buren Street crossing. Public invited.

ANNUAL PHOENIX JEEP CLUB 4-wheel drive outing, April 13 & 14. Write Phoenix Jeep Club, P. O. Box 168, Phoenix, Ariz. for details.

BERKELEY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY SHOW, April 20 & 21, Contra Costa College, San Pablo, Calif. Write P. O. Box 755, Berkeley, Calif. for details.

14TH ANNUAL SAREEA AL JAMEL Four Wheel Drive Club Cruise, May 4 & 5. A family outing and fun event. For details write P. O. Box 526, Indio, Calif. 92201.

TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SHOW, Feb. 16 through 18, Pima County Fairgrounds, Tucson, Ariz. Write to Chester Culp, 5713 W. Tumbling F St., Tucson, Ariz. 85713.

The Rugged Rogue



by Maryellen Garvey



ALTHOUGH the coyote has been the hero of many Indian legends (*coyotl*, the Aztecs called him), he is today considered a renegade and a rogue. He is clever and cunning, crafty and shrewd, fleet of foot, and more often heard than seen.

Mark Twain said of him, "He is a long, slim, sleek and sorry-looking skeleton with a grey wolf-skin stretched over it; a living, breathing allegory of want. He is so spiritless and cowardly that even while his exposed teeth are pretending a threat, the rest of his face is apologizing for it."

He is the representative animal of the West, *canis latrans* being the scientific name for most generally-known types. The average coyote is about half the size of his relative, the grey wolf. He is ap-

proximately 21 inches high, weighs 20 to 30 pounds, and is about four feet long. About one-third of his length is tail. He can run up to 45 miles an hour and therefore can catch jackrabbits and also escape his enemy the grey wolf. Eagles and owls often catch the young coyotes, however.

There are a dozen or more varieties. The handsomest is the Arizona coyote. This particular species can endure the furnace-like heat of the Southwest desert, even in time of drought. He has great stamina and endurance and can live anywhere below sea level to above timberline. And he is smart. He is smarter than most hunters. He is smarter than most campers. He is smarter than most grizzlies. Not many humans nor other animals like him, but he somehow manages to survive, even when Mother Nature is against him. For instance, he intensely dislikes the cold, yet he can withstand the

worst of blizzards. He loves warmth, but his heavy coat makes him uncomfortable in hot climates.

It is believed that he can smell water miles away. At any rate, wherever Southwestern Indians settled—because of a water supply—there Don Coyote also encamped. He is the wildest of thieves and seldom bungles. He has laid siege to the Red Man's corn, pigs, poultry and other foods. But it is not only the Indian who has been so often visited by the coyote. Innumerable times, tracks in the sand have told of coyotes' visits to new neighbors. They have been known to walk in and out of camp so carefully and noiselessly that sleepers were unaware of their presence.

The coyote doesn't mind "watching" at a safe distance because he can get away quickly if need be. They have learned the art of working together; if chased, however, they separate and do not join forces again until they have out-manuevered the enemy. But the leader usually searches out food alone, scouts the land and looks for traps and poison. When he is certain all is safe and clear he signals the whole pack by relay messages, one to another, so that coyotes within many miles get the signal.

It is believed that coyotes mate for life and propagate rapidly. This is one reason they have not been snuffed out long ago. A mother coyote can have as many as 10 to 15 young in one litter. Her babies are born in caves, hollow trees or burrows in the ground and they stay with their mother for six weeks or more. The father keeps the family supplied with food, but is never allowed into the den. In two months the young are trained to hunt and by fall (they are usually born in the spring or early summer) they are on their own.

All coyotes seem to have a sense of humor. Some authorities believe they laugh. They love to play and tease each other, are friendly and sociable with other coyotes, and always loyal to one another. It is the coyote who does so much noisy, dog-like yelping, so much high-pitched, blood-chilling howling and wailing at night, part-yelping, part-growling, part-barking. This sound is often heard in lonely places—strangely wild and yet with a human quality too.

The howling of coyotes is considered a good omen and also is supposed to indicate a change in the weather. A natural ventriloquist, the coyote can throw his voice great distances—a useful talent in sending out an S.O.S. when he needs help. One coyote can sound like a whole pack.

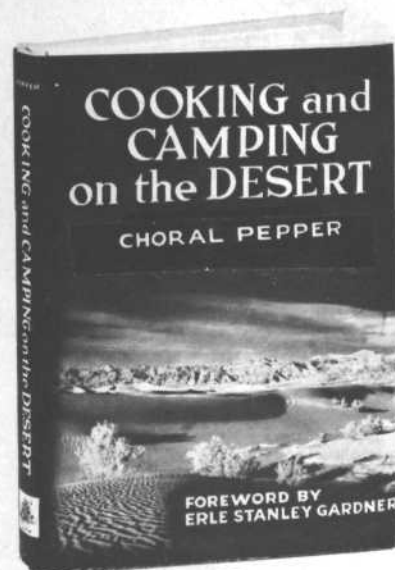
The coyote is nocturnal. In the daytime he hides in hollows and burrows made by other animals. It isn't until dusk that he sets forth to hunt for food. If near water, he likes to catch fish, but his usual diet is gophers, lizards, rabbits, rodents, reptiles, kangaroo rats, bugs, birds and birds' eggs. If he can get nothing better, he will eat prairie dogs, carrion or dead animals—and even newspapers. This makes him a scavenger.

He has also been called a pest to man. He is so destructive to sheep and poultry and small livestock that farmers and ranchers are constantly waging war on him. Battle has been going on throughout the West for over 60 years. Boys who live in coyote country are taught early to trap these animals. It has been said that every coyote does at least \$50 worth of damage in his lifetime. Is it any wonder that in some states there is a bounty on him?

Their pelts can be sold to make robes, gloves and coats. About 30 years ago, irate citizens in central California poisoned the coyote. The government also waged war on him. A vigorous extermination-campaign was begun with the result that the countryside was so overrun with jackrabbits, gophers, moles and rats that the farmers and ranchers began screaming their heads off for an extermination program against the rodents. At one time there was an estimated 82,000 mice per acre. These hungry rodents ate millions-of-dollars worth of grain and other products as well. So those who had been against the coyote finally decided that he had value after all and there was a lessening of war upon him.

Of course, there are still coyote hunts—often called "varmint safaries." Some of these safaries are as carefully planned as any big game hunt and are extremely popular in some places. Don Coyote is wise to the ordinary traps laid for him, however, and is cleverly learning how to stay out of gunshot range. So, in spite of traps, bullets and poison, he is holding his own against extinction. Many authorities believe that the coyote, because of this amazing ingenuity and adaptability, is likely to be the very last animal on earth. In the meantime, the expression, "You old coyote!" as applied to people who are much too clever will always be "fightin'" words—especially in Texas.

And yet, the coyote is so altogether a part of his Western setting that he belongs as naturally as do Indians and cowboys and cactus and sagebrush. He may be a villain, but he is a colorful, amusing one. And he is here to stay. □



by Choral Pepper

with a chapter on

Driving and Surviving on the Desert

by Jack Pepper

"Cooking and Camping on the Desert" is more than just a book on preparing for a desert outing or making meals that will appeal while in camp. This book is a brief manual on how to survive in the desert . . . the book is a must for anyone making a trip to the desert, whether it is his first or fiftieth. **BILL HILTON, Santa Barbara News-Press.**

ONLY \$3.95

Plus 25 cents mailing charges. California addresses add 20 cents tax. Send check or money order to Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. 92260

AUTOGRAPHED COPIES ON REQUEST

PLEASE ZIP!

Desert Magazine and Uncle Sam can handle your orders a day faster if you will include your zip code in ALL correspondence. And when MOVING please inform us as soon as possible and include both OLD and NEW ZIP CODES.

While hunting ollas, the author turned up a clue to a cache of hidden antique guns

Treasure and Art in Pinto Wash

by Ted Haney

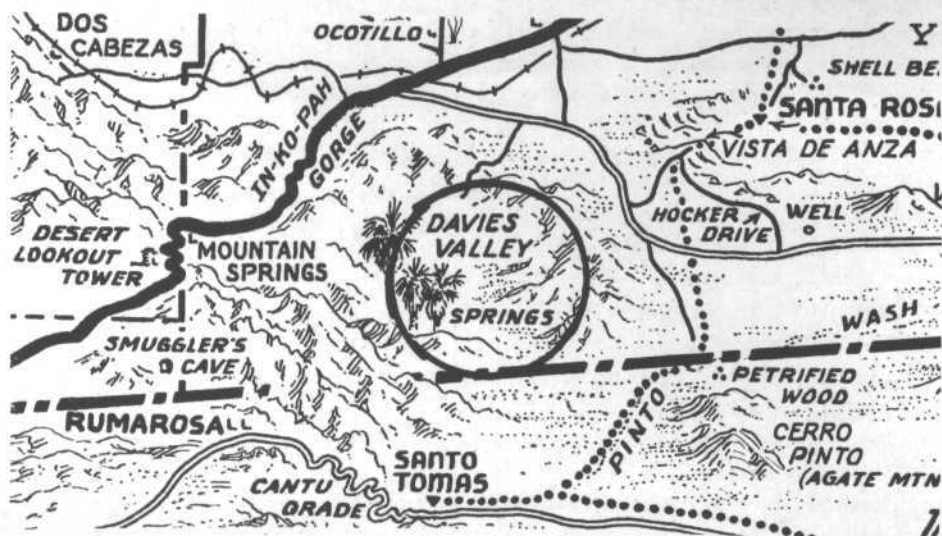


This petroglyph seems to represent some sort of primitive angel.



Grinding holes indicate an ancient Indian campsite.

The map below marks the general area of Davies Valley, but follow directions in story for more detail.



MUCH has been written about petroglyph sites in the West, but virtually unknown ones in remote areas still turn up today. Such a site is one in Pin-

to Wash, located in the southwestern corner of Imperial County, California, just north of the Mexican border.

As an avid olla hunter, I have been in and out of Pinto Wash many times—entering it both from above, near Smuggler's Cave, and from the desert side on its east. The wash is reached by traveling from the junction of Highway 80-98 about three miles toward Calexico, then turning off to the right on an average desert road to an abandoned tungsten mine about 11½ miles distant. Turn right here and go northeast on the road to Davies Valley. At the end of this road (about 10 miles) you will come to the edge of Pinto Wash, which runs from north to south until it goes into Mexico, where it turns back north and east into the U. S. From here it is a good 4-wheel drive run, if you like sandy washes. To return to the end of the road, turn up the wash on the right or to the north, for about ¾ of a mile, where there is room to park or turn around.

To reach the petroglyph site from here, you must hike up the wash for about a mile. On your right hand side, pecked into a large pile of rocks black with desert varnish, is displayed an enormous concentration of prehistoric art. Metate holes, which suggest an Indian campsite, are rarely found near petroglyphs of the "hunting magic" variety because the Indians knew better than to camp in spots to which they hoped to lure game. The figures found in Pinto Wash, however, are of a different nature. Stick people are prevalent and one example seems to portray a sort of guardian

angel watching over two mummies. Possibly these petroglyphs represent ceremonial or religious symbols.

On the north side of the rocks is an arrow which points directly to a campground, or burial ground, located about 200 yards further up the wash. This area has been dug into extensively and it is doubtful that any treasure or artifacts are left, but it might still be worth a look with a metal detector. Large rocks with metate holes in them and a few potshards lie here and there, along with the usual beer cans. Further up the wash is an oasis with palms of all sizes, mesquite, arrowbush, and a scattering of tamarisk, all of which provided products used by early Indians.

Several holes about two-feet deep in a side wash attest to the fact that water had been found here by digging, but the dampness around the holes appears black and oily. There may be a small oil seep. I have been told that as recently as 15 years ago a tarpit existed in one of the side washes near here. This was substantiated when I found *ollas* which had been repaired with tar from it to make them waterproof, but in my many trips to the wash, I have yet to locate this pit. Two elephant trees, a species which grows profusely in Baja California but rarely

on this side of the border, may also be seen here. Across the wash and on higher ground is a second petroglyph display, but of less consequence than the one on the side of the wash.

I was interested in an article in the June, 1967 DESERT Magazine about a cache of antique guns hidden in Davies Valley. The photo of the man with the palm trees in the background was taken up Pinto Wash from the campground and around the first bend to the left. About 30 years ago I was told by an old-timer in Jacumba—Sam Elliot—about this gun cache. He claimed that they were in another canyon south and west of Pinto Wash. In fact, the directions he gave would be directly south of Smuggler's Cave or Elliot's mine. This would put it south of the border, but accessible from the east side of the mountains. This is also the general area of the famous gold mine of Bill Hill, a well-known miner of Jacumba.

Pinto Wash, both above and below the border, is a vast area that could stand more exploration, but if you don't know where the water lies—and few of us do—carry a plentiful supply. With that caution observed, you probably won't have any trouble, but you will surely have a lot of fun! □

Baja California Adventure Map

The most accurate, detailed map of Baja California available. Compiled by Baja authority Mike McMahan from over twenty-five years travel and exploration. Shows all roads, resorts, air strips, etc. This handsome linen-finished, four-color 34"x58" wall map is easily framed for home or office. An ideal Christmas gift. Only \$7.50 (unframed) post paid. California residents add 38 cents sales tax.

Phone or write (213) 747-4224
McMahan Brothers Desk Co., Inc.
3131 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, Calif. 90007



it RAISES ... it LOWERS ... it's HYDRAULIC

The unique hydraulic mechanism which raises the camper top can be safely operated even by a small child. Locks prevent accidental lowering. The top is lowered quickly by the simple turn of a valve. Drive safely at any speed with minimum drag and sway. Sit or recline on comfortable couches while traveling with top down. Alaskan camper top raises in sec-

onds. Enjoy roomy walk-in living quarters, weather tight, high ceiling, "home away from home," complete with three-burner stove, sink, cabinets, ice box, beds and many other luxury features.

6 FACTORIES TO SERVE YOU

Write today to the factory nearest you for free folder describing the most advanced camper on the road.

R. D. HALL MFG., INC., 9847 Glenoaks Blvd., Sun Valley (San Fernando Valley) California 91352, Dept. D.

ALASKAN CAMPERS NORTHWEST, INC., 6410 South 143rd Street, (Tukwila), Seattle Wash. 98168, Dept. D.

ALASKAN CAMPER SALES, INC., (S.F.-Sacramento area) Intersection of Interstate Highway 80 and State 21, Route 1, Box 332, Suisun City, California 94585, Dept. D.

PENNECAMP, INC., 401 W. End Ave., Manheim, Penna., 17545, Dept. 4.

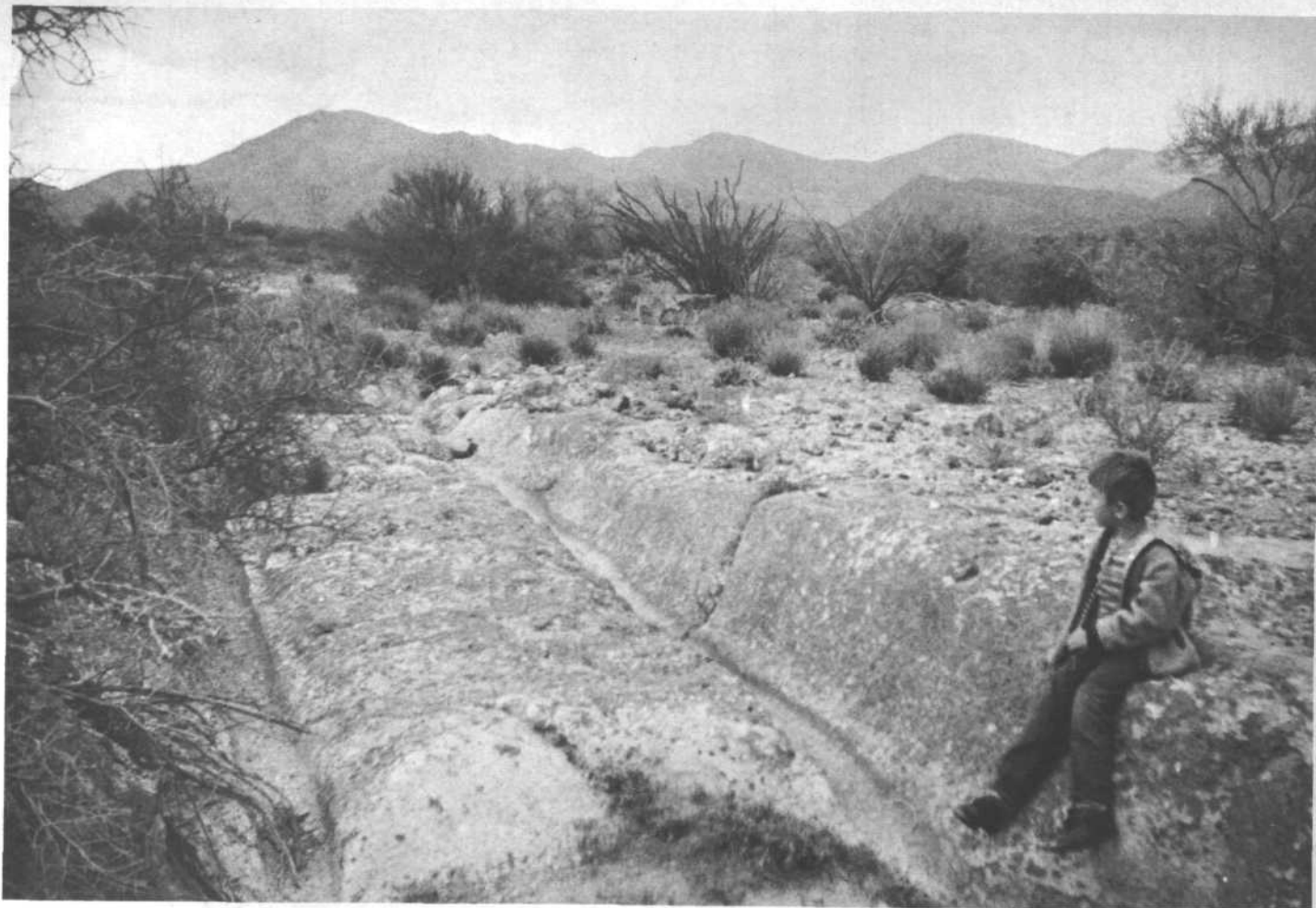
G. R. Grubbs Manufacturing, Inc. d/b/a

ALASKAN CAMPER SALES, 5761 Cullen Blvd., Houston, Texas 77021, Dept. D

FORT LUPTON CAMPERS, INC., 1100 Denver Ave., Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621, Dept. D.

U. S. PATENT NO. 2879103

CANADIAN PATENT NO. 637-547



The Town History Forgot

by Lee Lucas



INAL CITY has been snubbed. Arizona historians praise the Silver King mine in flowing paragraphs, but devote only a concise sentence or two to old Pinal City. Tourists, rock-hounds and ghost town-hounds drive miles to view the Silver King and blithely ignore the site of old Pinal City, a scant half-mile off U.S. 60 & 70.

True, the Silver King mine was one of the richest of its day; all told, it gave forth approximately six and a half million dollars. But Pinal City was more than a mining town, or even just a mill town—it actually began as an army camp when General George Stoneman laid out Camp Pickett Post in 1877 on the northeast slope of Pickett Post Butte.

Located along the shady banks of the winding Queen Creek, Pinal City was an important stage stop between Globe and Florence. The Silver King mine, five miles distant, had its stamping mill working night and day on the banks of the creek because of the available water. Mill hands, business men, wives and children swelled the population of Pinal City to nearly 2500. It was a well-run, up-to-date town with four doctors to sew up



knife wounds and deliver babies. There were drugstores and lawyers and a schoolhouse for children. A church and pastor provided spiritual solicitude and there was a post office, bank and numerous general stores for everyday needs. Of course no town in that day and age could survive without the blacksmith's shop, livery stables and corrals. Pinal City had lots of them. There were also two breweries to supply the demands of its 12 saloons. Today, the ruins of Pinal City are well hidden. Devil's tongue cactus trails across melting adobe walls and mesquite trees spread above old foundations.

One day when I was hunting, without much luck, for the site of old Pinal City, I was lucky enough to meet kindly Mr. Williams. He showed me the deep ruts that scar the bedrock, cut there by the enormous ore wagons that were lashed four together and pulled by 20 mules. Down these ruts the mule skinnners drove the stubborn mules, lashing them with whips and angry words. Some of the drivers, dissatisfied with their wages, urged the mules on by pelting them with hunks of rich silver ore while following the wagons at a discreet distance a confederate picked up the ore and rushed it to a businessman in Pinal City, who also happened to be a fence.

In one short walk across the corner of Pinal City we found a stove lid lifter, a hook of undetermined origin, a rim from a wagon wheel, purple desert glass, a mule shoe, dozens of square nails and bits of imported crockery. Surprisingly, the bottle hunters haven't been here yet. Many orientals lived and worked in Pinal City, and in one section of the ruins large quantities of opium bottles have been found, as well as clay pipes and an old Chinese coin or two.

Nothing much remains of the huge 20-stamp mill that once busily crushed out 50 tons a day. Ore shipments to the mill ceased when the Silver King stopped mining; without the ore, the mill was soon idle. Without the mill, Pinal City was doomed.

Across the highway lies the lonely cemetery. Unkempt graves are being claimed by the desert and wooden crosses have weathered away to nothing. We were told that originally fine granite tombstones marked many of the graves, but these were stolen, chiseled clean, and now grace the graves of more recent dead. We did find one tombstone, perhaps saved from a similar fate because it was cracked, that marked the resting place of an immigrant from Denmark.

Since we had already put the cart before the horse by visiting the mill town

before the mine, we decided then to visit Silver King mine. The road to it was smooth and graded, twisting along a wash, and finally snaking up an incline. At its summit, five miles out, weathered boards blocked the road. Within seconds an equally weathered woman rushed to the side of our car.

"Can we go up to the mine?" I asked.

"You can if I'll let you," she replied, "but it'll cost you a dollar per person."

We talked awhile, but mostly I listened to the woman tell how she had acquired the Silver King mine. After I felt that I had gained her confidence, I asked, "Is it all right to take pictures?"

"Well," she asserted, "sometimes I let

people take pictures and sometimes I don't. It all depends on whether or not I want to let you."

On that discordant note we ended our conversation. Without pictures, or even a glimpse of the mine, we turned our car back towards U.S. 60-70. Somehow I couldn't help feeling a twinge of pity as we drove away, leaving the woman silhouetted on her lonely hilltop where she guards the remains of the Silver King, with only dogs and cats for company.

Back at the highway, we crossed on over to Pinal City to wander further among the odds and ends that litter old Pinal—odds and ends that tell unwritten tales of a town long vanished. □

Make Your Outings More Fun and Profitable Too!

Stop By And See Our . . .

Western Artifacts, Indian Collection, Jewelry Display, Lapidary Equipment, Tumblers, Gold Pans, Dry Washers, Books on Treasures and Lost Mines . . . and other items of fun for the entire family. For information just write to or call:

METAL DETECTORS

- Detectron
- Rayscope

Get the Best . . .
Top Guarantee . . .
Easy to Operate

From
\$75.00 to
\$165.00



Find
Gold
Old Coins
Treasures

COMPTON ROCK SHOP

Ph. 632-9096

1405 South Long Beach Blvd.

Compton, California 90221



Western Footwear
The MOCCASIN SHOP



Deerskin moccasins and moccasin boots . . . men's and women's sandals . . . Rachel Brown vestidos and capes . . . men's, women's and children's leather jackets . . . authentic Indian beaded moccasins . . . Kaibab buckskin molded sole moccasins . . . Guilmox, Minnetonka, Taos, Lazar, Bass moccasins.

WRITE FOR FREE BROCHURE

THE MOCCASIN SHOP, 174 North Palm Canyon Drive
Palm Springs, Calif. 92262

AC 714 325-6425

DISCOVER TREASURES, COINS, RELICS & ARTIFACTS

ONE OF AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING SPORTS !

Easy
Budget
Terms

Outdoor Adventure that is
both profitable and fun
for the entire family.

THE GOLDMASTER Model
S63 Metal-Mineral Detector
detects Coins, Guns, Jewelry,
Gold and Silver nuggets, ore
deposits, mineral floats and
veins...Separates magnetic iron
from non-magnetic metals....
.....Two Year Guarantee.....

\$16950

SEND FOR FREE
CATALOG



Room 121 WHITE'S ELECTRONICS, Inc.
1011 Pleasant Valley Rd.

Sweet Home, Oregon 97386

Clyde Forsythe's Famous . . .

Gold Strike Series

Four Mining Camp Scenes

All In 4-Color

Each 14"x17" with white margins
on high quality paper suitable for
framing.

No lettering or folds.

ONLY

\$2.50

A SET

Postage & Tax included

Send Check or Money Order to

Desert Magazine Book Shop,
Palm Desert, Calif. 92260
No Charges Please.



TRIP TO A TOUGH TOWN

by George Hollister



NAMED as the town "Too Tough To Die," Tombstone is an easy half-day sight-seeing excursion from the old pueblo of Tucson. As far as Benson, which is most of the distance, there is a four-lane highway. The balance into Tombstone is by a good two-laner, marked for a speed of 60. It used to take 17

hours by stage coach to get there—if the Indians didn't get you first. Now it takes an hour.

The entire trip is through rugged, mountainous country covered with sagebrush, cacti and nothing else—not even a gas station for at least 30 miles. But once having arrived, forlornness is forgotten and your imagination envisions days when lawlessness and the fast-draw

BE A TRAVEL AGENT OR TOUR GUIDE



... I'LL GIVE YOU this
Rand-McNally World Globe
and exciting 86-Volume
Travel Library!

World Globe, 12-Volume Rand-McNally World Atlas, PanAm 2-Volume "World Horizons," 12-Volume Vacation Guide Encyclopedia, American President Lines Travel Agents' Manual, 500-page Travel Industry Personnel Directory, Official Airlines Guides, International Shipline Guide, Hotel & Travel Index, 52-issue subscription to Travel Agent Magazine and dozens travel folders, maps & posters given to you with your complete 50-Lesson North American Course in Travel.

... When you train at home with N.A.S.T. for a BIG MONEY CAREER IN TRAVEL

(as Travel Agent, Tour Guide or in one of 100's Big Money Career Positions in Travel) There's excitement, big money, fun, prestige in Travel. Thousands big money career opportunities open to qualified men & women. Travel is booming—increasing 15% each year. Easy home-study plan trains you for well-paid job with travel agency, airline, resort, etc.—shows you how

to become Travel Agent—reveals how to make big profits escorting tours—discloses how to roam the world at reduced rates. Send for big "TRAVEL CAREER KIT"—20-Page Book "Opportunities in Travel," giant full color World Wall Map & Sample Lesson—ALL FREE! No salesman will call. Mail coupon today!



J. Russell Calvert / Executive Director
North American School of Travel, Dept. 1461
4500 Campus Dr., University Plaza, Newport, Calif. 92660

Mail "TRAVEL CAREER KIT"—20-Page Book, Giant Wall Map & Sample Lesson—ALL FREE!

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____



were more common than false eyelashes are today.

To the left of the city limits a building rears upward bearing the ominous words "Boot Hill." Admission to the graves is free and the immediate impression is that an amazing number of people have been buried at the city's expense. The sites are now nothing more than mounds of rocks, but they extend in rows a good distance down the hill. Most are marked with just a name and date, but solemnity is forgotten when you come to "Shot by Mistake." At least two are inscribed, "Suicide," a happenstance hard to imagine with Tombstone's robust reputation. Others reflect poetic justice of the times, like the one that says: Here lies Lester More—Four Slugs from A 44—No Les—No More. And what could be more descriptive of history than the one that reads: John Heater—Taken From County Jail and Lynched by Bisbee Mob in Tombstone—Feb 22 1884?

Famed in print and on television, Tombstone was named by a prospector, Ed Schieffelin, in 1877, when he broke a rock from an odd formation and discovered silver. The following year, he found a really rich vein and called it the Lucky Cuss. Shortly after, the Toughnut lode was found, as were others. Riches are hard to hide and before long hundreds of men arrived, all seeking wealth. Ed retired a millionaire, but many more never found enough to pay their bills. The influx, however, caused a building boom of wooden shacks, saloons and houses of entertainment. The first adobe structure still stands on the corner of Fourth and Toughnut Street. In its patio is a rose bush planted in 1885 and said to be the largest of its kind in the world.

Into this rip-roaring camp there rode, in December 1879, one of the most controversial figures of the west—Wyatt Berry Earp. His four brothers also arrived, as did his old friends Bat Masterson and Doc Holliday. Historians differ on Wyatt's actions in Tombstone. Some claim he was a U. S. Marshal while others flatly state no evidence exists of such a title. Nevertheless, the famed O.K. Corral where vengeance was sought in a gun battle still stands on Allen Street between 3rd and 4th. Visitors can't resolve the issue, but they have no trouble deciding that the holes in the adobe walls are from the same fight. Wyatt survived the duel and eventually died in California in 1929. Consumptive ex-dentist Doc Holliday used his last breath in Colorado asking for another drink of whiskey.

"We're at least ten thousand strong now," claimed the newspaper, *The Tomb-*

stone Epitaph in 1882, and during the same year, the municipal government moved into the new City Hall on Freemont Street. As it does today, the building also housed the Fire Department. Water was brought in from 25 miles away, the pipe coming around the Horn to the Gulf of California to be hauled overland. Today, more than 80 years later, this same water system is still used.

Silver was mined at a great rate and during the '80s, over \$5,000,000 worth was taken from the ground annually. Then water started seeping into the mines and eventually forced them to close. Equipment was removed and the mine structures dismantled. Today a visitor can stand on the southern edge of town and see in the hills beyond a few crumbling foundations and piles and piles of tailings—rock refuse.

Now Tombstone is alive again and growing. Two television series—Wyatt Earp and Tombstone Territory—have publicized the town and a daily parade of tourists arrive to see in person what they've viewed on the tube. The Can Can Restaurant, the Bird Cage Theatre (where Wyatt once upset the entire town by appearing in full formal attire), and the *Epitaph* Office still stand, as do others, and are still in use. Many of the buildings still have wooden walks in front of them and weather-aged stores display the clothes and implements of that bygone age.

The *Tombstone Epitaph* continues to be printed and dated Thursday of each week, although it goes on sale the day before. Its style hasn't changed much and the humor doesn't differ a bit. The September 1, 1966 issue, for instance, carried this gem on the last page: "Cargo Borch: Final Notice—Some of Tombstone's Very Pleasant People may become otherwise, unless they pay up immediately or sooner. Signed Jack Hendrickson."

And right above it, "Will the distinguished gentleman whose enthusiasm caused him to forget his wallet . . . in my place of business after church Sunday last, please pick up same at the Lucky Cuss Restaurant to save embarrassment. Mme LeDeau." On page one is an advertisement by the same lady concerning her 21 lovely hostesses, claiming that her business' motto is: "Ask Any Man."

Today Tombstone boasts a population of 1400, a far cry from the exciting '80s. In spite of numerous misfortunes, killings, fires and floods that have tried to erase this town from the map, Tombstone lives and grows. It truly is "The Town Too Tough To Die." □

"Let's Go To Baja!"



ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

Are you dreaming of Baja down Mexico way? Baja California in Old Mexico has me in its spell and I must go back again. Maybe you have always wanted to see this fascinating peninsula that time forgot. If so then now is your chance. Come with me in 4-wheel drive air conditioned station wagons for a wonderful trip. We leave San Diego area Jan. 10 and go all the way down to La Paz and the cape on a leisurely trip lasting 30 days. Or you may take the return trip leaving La Paz Feb. 11. I am taking a limited group so make your reservations soon. Write to me for details.

MITCH WILLIAMS

156 North First West Moab, Utah 84532
Phone 253-4346

New for rockhounds

Rocks and minerals — full-color folder tells where to find what in Arizona — from actinolite to wulfenite. Special bonus: "Story of gold." A real "find" for hobbyists!

ARIZONA ROCKHOUND GUIDE



Quick reference chart shows rock & mineral groupings in 14 counties.

WRITE FOR FREE COLOR FOLDER

AMAZING ARIZONA

ARIZONA DEVELOPMENT BOARD, DEPT. 105
3443 N. Central, Phoenix, Arizona 85012
Please send Free Rockhound Guide

NAME _____		
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____

PHANTASTIC PHOENIX

by Jack Delaney



Scottsdale, a fashionable Western resort town, lies on the outskirts of Phoenix.



F THEY had known you were coming they would have baked a cake. This is the kind of hospitality you sense when you experience your first visit

to this modern Arizona metropolis. Even though Phoenix is the largest city in Arizona, it hasn't lost the charm of a relaxed, informal Western town. It has been called "Miracle City in the Sun" and "The Queen City of the Desert," but I prefer to think of it as a vacation bonanza of unexcelled outdoor recreation with historical and scenic attractions.

After checking into one of its fine motor lodges or setting your boots in an exciting guest ranch, the first place you will want to visit is Scottsdale. This unique village adjacent to Phoenix offers lovers of the Old West a generous sample of what he hankers for. Porch-fronted shops with rustic hitching posts contribute to the frontier atmosphere and on the streets, "horseless carriages" yield the right-of-way to horses!

Nationally known as an arts and crafts center, Scottsdale's fine shops along their 5th Avenue display native and imported handicraft items of top quality. In an attractive court a fountain featuring a reclining figure with a continuous shower of perfume spraying over her vies with cactus blooming in a spittoon, but the old West always did go in for amusing touches of sophistication!

The Parado del Sol (first week in February) offers a fun-filled week-end with a typical Old West parade and world championship rodeo; the Arabian Horse Show (last week in February) features fabulous Arabian horses bred and trained in Arizona; and the Indian Arts Show (first and second weeks in March) displays the best in Arizona Indian crafts. Before seeing this presentation you might want to delve into the area's Indian history.

The Heard Museum of Anthropology and Primitive Arts (on East Monte Vista Road) is one of the Southwest's foremost museums dealing with early Indian crafts

and cultures. Among thousands of pieces on display are 230 Pima baskets and 125 assorted Navaho textiles. Pima baskets rank with the world's best as to beauty and diversity of pattern—no two baskets are ever exactly alike and the textile work of the Navaho Indians is excellent in quality and unique in design.

An annual affair worth seeing is the two-day Indian Fair. This year's celebration will be held April 6-7 and it will feature talented Navaho weavers, Hopi Kachina doll carvers, Mariposa potters, Papago basket makers, Plains Indian musical groups, Mexican mariachis, and various Indian tribes presenting their fascinating dances.

While we are thinking "Indian" it might be an appropriate time to point out that the Hohokam people, believed to date back to about the time of the birth of Christ, were skilled artists and master farmers. They set up the irrigation canals that have been enlarged and improved and are responsible for the green lawns and beautiful plants in modern Phoenix.

Investigation of their culture is difficult because they cremated their dead, along with their possessions. However, much has been learned through excavations of ancient sites. Phoenix is the only city in the nation with a city-employed archeologist.

You may visit the excavations of an ancient Hohokam village at the Pueblo Grande Ruins, an historical monument maintained by the city at 4619 East Washington Street. Excavations are carried on at intervals and artifacts encountered are recorded, studied, and stored in a small museum at the site. In viewing the partially uncovered living quarters of an extinct people you will appreciate the fact that the glorious past of the Hohokams is being kept alive through this worthwhile project.

For a smooth transition from earth and stone structures of an ancient civilization to one that is super-modern, drive east on Van Buren Street to the Arizona State University campus. Here you'll see the last great work of Frank Lloyd Wright—the Grady Gammage Auditorium. Designed as an auditorium, concert hall, and theater, it seats 3000 persons. Acoustical excellence is enhanced by the detachment of the grand tier and balcony from the rear wall, permitting sound to surround every patron.

For outdoor recreation Phoenix provides 30 parks. Most scenic of the in-town areas is 220-acre Encanto Park on 15th Avenue with its tree-shaded lagoons, grassy picnic grounds, golf courses, and kiddies' playland. About seven miles from downtown Phoenix is 15,000-acre South

Mountain Park, the world's largest city-owned park. It is a desert-mountain region with a wide variety of plants, volcanic rock, and native animals. Eight centuries ago the Hohokam Indians lived here and roamed this land. More than 2000 of their stone etchings have been found within the park. This is now a major recreational paradise.

Papago Park, with its wind and sand eroded red rock formations, is a regional scenic highlight between Phoenix and Scottsdale, stretching from Camelback Mountain on the north to Van Buren Street. Attractions include the Desert Botanical Garden, the Municipal Golf Course, the Phoenix Zoo, and the famous Hole-in-the-Rock—a noted red rock formation where the elements have eroded a passage completely through the hill.

One of the largest Desert Botanical Gardens in the world is Papago Park where more than 300 acres are devoted exclusively to desert plants. The annual Cactus Show is in late February.

Once you've seen a couple of lions or baboons, you've seen them all, but the Phoenix Zoo is worthy of mention for several reasons. Located in a beautiful hillside setting, it is uniquely arranged with the animals grouped by continent. Two exceptions are an interesting Arizona exhibit and a five-acre children's section. The Arizona exhibit features animals indigenous to the state and an aviary where Arizona's birds live among native flora.

In 1963, the Phoenix Zoo was chosen by the World Wildlife Fund as the ideal

location for the rebuilding of the near-extinct Arabian oryx population. This zoo now has more than half of the known number of these animals in the world! When viewed from the side, the Arabian oryx appears to have a single horn. At one time it was believed to be the fabled unicorn.

Ken McClure, manager of the Phoenix News Bureau, suggested to us a number of goodies that should interest the average visitor. Among them was the famous Lulu Belle's in Scottsdale—a fine restaurant with western motif, a rinky-tink piano player and mustached bartenders. Here is featured a rum drink called Joannie's Garter that is almost a work of art. (The garter around the glass is yours to keep). Other restaurants startle you with such novelties as an armored knight on a white horse who escorts you to the front door,



The rare Arabian oryx has been imported to the Phoenix zoo.

strolling Mexican mariachis, and leggy French waitresses who bounce with the ounce. Another suggestion for interesting dining will also send you straight to the dogs! The Phoenix Greyhound Park on Washington Street is one of the nation's largest and finest glass-enclosed racing facilities with a posh clubhouse and fine food.

Worth seeing is the Stable Art Gallery (East MacDonald Drive) with its metal sculptures, the Glass and Garden Drive-in Church (East MacDonald Drive), the Horse Country Club (on the Pima Indian Reservation) which is dedicated to the horse set, the Food Bazaar (Town and Country Center) with indoor and outdoor dining—it offers foods of many nationalities, including authentic Indian food, and the Cracker Barrel Country Store (Indian School Road), a re-creation of an early general store fully stocked with all of the



Papago Park in Phoenix is one of the largest botanical parks in the world.

St. Moses, the Black Desert Father

by Martin Porres Walsh, D.O.



WITH so much attention focused upon frustration and violence in the asphalt world of today, it is important that we value more than ever the peace and stillness of the desert. This is the story of a man who heard the call of the desert over 1500 years ago. Moses the

Black was a Negro, born sometime after the year 300AD. As a youth in northern Egypt he was dismissed from his position as household servant because of general immorality. With free time on his hands and no income, he organized a band of other young men and they turned to thievery for a living. The band of young brigands, traveling from town to town under the leadership of Moses, became the terror of the Nile River. Because of his great stature and strength, Moses soon became known throughout the land for his fierceness. On one occasion, after an attempted burglary had been thwarted by the barking of a sheep dog, he swore vengeance on the owner. To carry out the threat, he approached the dwelling of the dog's owner from the other side of the Nile by placing his sword between his teeth, and swimming the river. Fortunately the owner hid and escaped death, but Moses killed the shepherd's four best rams, sold the skins for wine and after a meal of roasted mutton and wine, walked 50 miles back to his gang's camp.

Authorities constantly pursued the youthful bandit until at last pressure forced him to escape to the desert. This is what caused his downfall as a bandit.

Those who have spent time alone in desert solitude know the haunting call that must have forced the reckless young African to come to grips with himself. The silence of desert stones and sand and sky can shatter a man's psyche. It is no coincidence that the great religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam were influenced by men who spent much time in the desert's vast solitude.

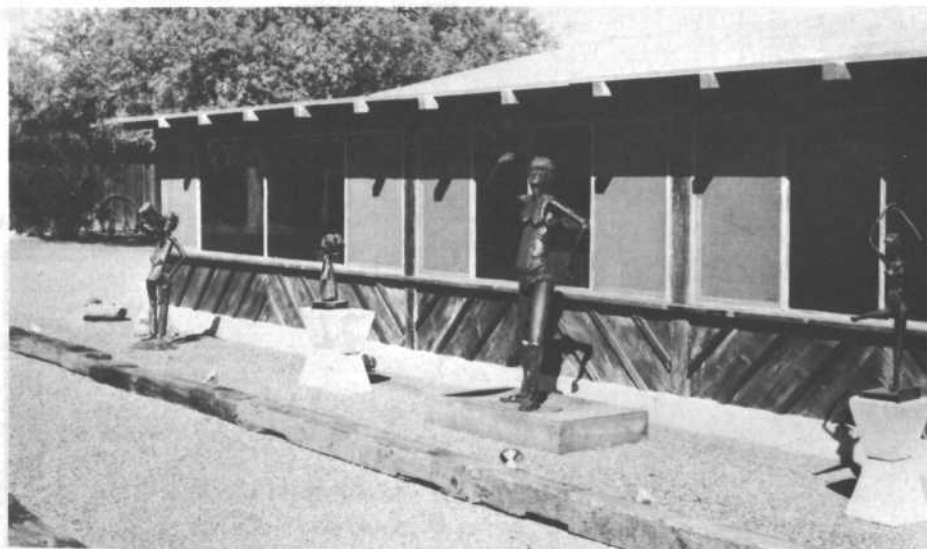
Eventually Moses became restless with constant hiding and sought refuge with a group of desert monks. Only for brief visits to Alexandria did he ever again leave the desert. After finding peace with God, he then found himself at peace with other men. Later he became a monk and so renowned for his holiness that the Patriarch of Alexandria called him to the great city to ordain him a priest and appoint him the superior of an isolated Egyptian monastery which offered shelter to strangers and travelers. At the age of 75, while greeting with open arms a band of wondering tribesmen about to attack the monastery, he was murdered by the very men he desired to serve. Moses the robber is now venerated as St. Moses The Black, an apostle of non-violence. □

Phantastic Phoenix

items and equipment of that time. Phoenix is an all-year vacation center, but its busiest season is from October to May.

Many years ago, the first white visitors arrived in this land when it was the exclusive stamping ground of the redman. They came in search of treasure and received a warm welcome—in fact, the

Apaches made it real hot for them! Today a changed situation exists; visitors arriving in droves are not searching for treasure—they bring it with them. The residents, both Indian and non-Indian, extend a warm welcome and tempt them to linger in what they consider to be a fascinating city—and half a million Phoenixians can't be wrong! □



Be sure to visit the unusual Iron Museum in Phoenix.

A Gift That's REALLY Different!

Zodiac Parties Menus and Recipes

By Choral Pepper

Editor of DESERT Magazine

The author plans a different party for every month in the year. Her suggestions on the guests to invite and the food to serve are based on astrological analyses of the tastes and interests of those born under each of the twelve signs of the Zodiac.

HARD COVER, 130 PAGES, ILLUSTRATED

ORIGINALLY \$4.95

**NOW ONLY
\$3.00**

Order from

Desert Magazine Book Shop

Palm Desert, California 92260

California residents add 15 cents sales tax.

They are Carefree at Cave Creek

by Mary Bonnell



IN AN area where the desert and mountains breed peculiar forms, a scenic route now makes it unnecessary for travelers to carry botany books.

Called Desert Foothills Drive, the new botany trail runs through Carefree and Cave Creek, Arizona and species names for cacti may be read from attractive redwood signs without even stopping your car, although parking and picnic areas are also provided.

This new scenic drive, 17 miles long, forms the upper part of a loop based in Phoenix and Scottsdale. Entrance signs on both Cave Creek and Scottsdale roads proudly boast, "The Most Beautiful Desert in the World." Ample evidence supports the claim.

The Desert Foothills area is one of nature's most unique spots. It inundates through washes and ridges that lead to Tonto National Forest and the Mazatzel Wilderness. The growth is, for the desert, lush and greatly varied. Saguaros stand up like antennae in a subdivision. In spring the sunny yellow flowers of the blue and foothill palo verde are complimented by the lacy lavender of the delicate ironwood blossom.

From the tiniest pincushion to chain fruit and jumping cholla, almost the entire range of American desert plants is represented. And if the winter rains are generous, the ground space between cacti is carpeted with purple lupine and orange poppies in the spring.

The Desert Foothills area lies 1000 to 1500 feet above the Valley of the Sun. From several vantage points you can see the metropolis spread out below. Mountain ranges 3500 to 4500 feet rise around it and a few miles north, through Tonto Forest, lies fabled Bloody Basin. The two villages which form the focal point for the Desert Foothills Drive, and whose citizens are responsible for its existence, are Cave Creek and Carefree. The motive which instituted it was selfish—these people, who live 25 miles above Phoenix, wanted to protect the natural beauty of their desert from creeping urbanization. Thus, talk led to action. Civic committees started with requests for legal setbacks

and sign ordinances. Work crews organized to haul rocks, hammer, rake and paint. Now, three years later, the results of the community endeavor have encouraged an extension of the "botanical garden" for the enjoyment of everyone.

The mining history of Cave Creek reaches back to 1880 when a Phoenix newspaper hailed it as one of the great gold finds of history. As it turned out, there wasn't that much gold—nor silver, nor copper, nor mercury—though some of all were mined here. The village remained, however, a small community with the easy-going philosophy of the Old West.

About 10 years ago, a new neighbor moved in along Cave Creek's eastern boundary. Named "Carefree," it developed into a carefully planned and exclusive residential and resort center. After a short time, it boasted an International Restaurant, a fabulous Carefree Inn, and a golf course considered one of the most difficult to play in Arizona. In spite of other differences, however, the people attracted to Carefree shared with Cave Creek residents a respect and affection for the natural desert. Together, they agreed to maintain the 150 redwood signs which identify the cacti along Desert Foothills Drive. Four plants of each species were

then chosen and put up for "adoption," with individuals, families, or organizations accepting the responsibility for pruning and landscaping the plants. The County Parks and Highway department cooperated by providing picnic tables and a frieze at the entrance gate sculptured by Lawrence Tenney Stevens. The frieze depicts a pair of fighting bucks, heads lowered and horns interlocked. Deer are still a frequent sight here.

Material for signs was donated by the local lumber yard, which provided weekend space for the business men, retirees, and women who researched the data and



painted the signs. Teenagers staged a workday during Christmas vacation to speed the job. They also adopted a cat-claw of gigantic proportions, 30 feet across, and suffered plenty of scratches while clearing out underbrush.



All of this was possible because a few people determined that if a thing was worthwhile, there must be a way to get it done. Much of the 150-foot set-back ran through private land and compromise often was necessary, but this was the only way to legally protect the strip along the highway from future development. Fortunately, the idea was born and the set-back assured before any building was done in the desired area.

Prime mover of work on the scenic drive, Leslie H. Rhuart of Carefree, suggests that other communities play follow-the-leader. "There are still undeveloped areas in our part of the country where deed restrictions and ordinances can be set up to provide parkways like the Desert Foothills Drive," he says. "It takes time and effort and a lot of work with your County authorities, but it can and should be done."

Since Scottsdale and Cave Creek roads were paved a few years ago, the 50-mile loop has been a favorite Sunday afternoon trip for people from the Valley. Using any major east-west road in Phoenix and Scottsdale, you may travel leisurely up one leg of the loop, through the villages, and back the other leg. And any season is a good one to test your knowledge of cacti along Deesrt Foothills Drive. Spring, however, is particularly rewarding after abundant winter rains. □



by Les Beitz



OSTEEN Cohay!" That's what long-hair Navajos uttered when they bargained with Indian traders for Arbuckles. Translated, it means "Mr. Coffee." And that means John Arbuckle.

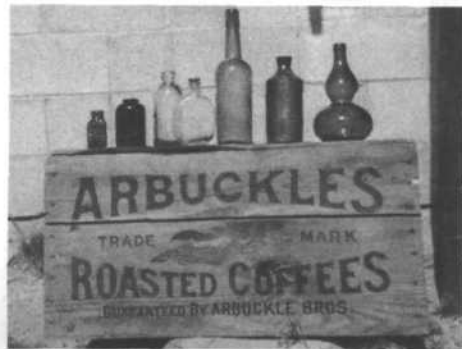
John had gotten into the coffee business in a big way shortly after the close of the Civil War. By reason of his remarkable ingenuity in perfecting a glazing process to seal in the flavor of freshly-roasted coffee beans (and through some mighty sharp merchandising practices), he and his brother Charles weren't long in making the flying angel trademark the symbol for good coffee everywhere. With a keen eye on the rapidly expanding trade areas opening up throughout the far West, they saw to it that every wagon freighter and train of boxcars heading in that direction had plenty of "Ariosa" aboard. In brief, the Arbuckle boys had come up with a product much in demand and they proceeded to deliver it wherever the demand existed. Actually, they had three things going for them.



First, their coffee was good. Secondly, in prairie country where wood was scarce, Arbuckle shipping boxes were important items of salvage. Homesteaders knocked out the ends and used them for well casings. Post traders used them for shelving, bins, chests and storage containers of all sorts. Indian women used them for cradle boards, decorated with buckskin and silver. They also wound up being used for pack saddle panniers, feed boxes, furniture, doors—and coffins, too. You name it; an Arbuckle packing case would make it. One of the nicest old chuck wagon grub boxes I ever saw was made by an old-time ranch handyman from a couple of those sturdy cases.

And lastly, there were the coupons. Or, more appropriately, the things you got for the coupons. There's just no way of estimating how many thousands of pairs of wide suspenders worn by hard-

slogging ranchmen and sodbusters were ordered from Arbuckle premium catalogues. Old company records show, among other intensely interesting things, that a couple hundred thousand fine quality straight razors were sent out in redemption of Ariosa coupons. And, as might be supposed, coffee grinders went out by the thousands. Hefty pocket knives, watches, pot, pans, dolls, polka dot handkerchiefs, rings, scissors — just about everything a Westerner wanted or needed (except firearms) was included on Arbuckles premium leaflets.



So all in all, Arbuckles enterprise in the marketing of coffee resulted in something you might call an "institution" in the West. And it's their homely little coupons, Ariosa packages, fancy stencilled (janpanned) signs, counter display placards, shipping cases, premium lists and the like that go to make up a unique area of collector interest. The store signs show up from time to time when old stockrooms or warehouses are renovated. Shipping cases can sometimes be located, but they're usually in a knock-down state, still doing good service as interior partitioning in stables and sheds. Occasionally when the far reaches of an old closet or trunk have been penetrated, a packet of Ariosa coupons comes to light. Even a few unopened one-pound bags of the aromatic brew have lately been recovered which years ago had been sealed and stashed in attic corners.

A fair share of all these wonderful Arbuckle items are still lurking around, but I won't go so far as to say they're plentiful. Elusive is a better way to put it. Anyway, keep an eye peeled, because sooner or later you'll run up on a genuine bit of "Arbuckliana" . . . and that spells "Bonus Points" in any collection of things western. □

Weekend Prospecting for Fun and Profit

by Carl Fischer



EEKEND prospectors and amateur gem hunters who roam California's mountains and deserts are finding fresh bonanzas with astonishing frequency.

Their efforts often pay handsome dividends. Only last month the credit manager of a local firm left his job to devote his full time to the development of an opal mine he discovered less than a year ago. Sam was a weekend gem hunter until last winter, when he unearthed a valuable opal deposit in the desert. Since acquiring title to the property, he has uncovered enough of the precious material to guarantee a good income for many years.

Because the earth sciences provide healthful outdoor relaxation and give the entire family fascinating hobbies to pursue, weekend prospecting is gaining thousands of new followers yearly. Quality specimens are easy to sell and there's always the chance of a rare find which can bring rich financial rewards. Retired couples are finding this sport to their liking and the additional revenue it brings often augments inadequate pension checks.

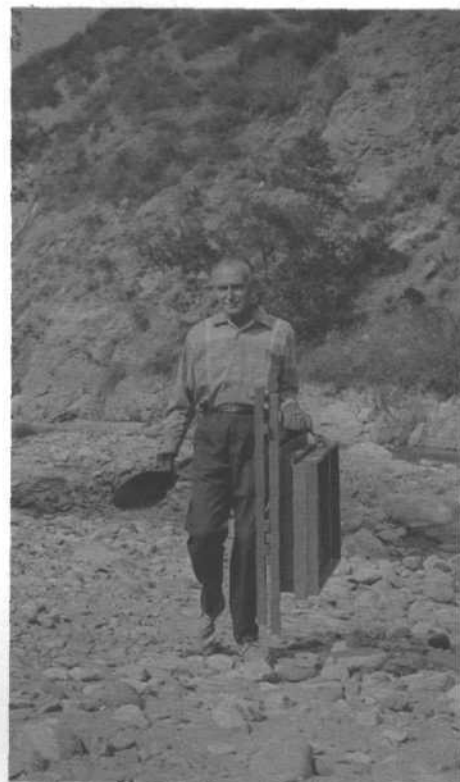
But it takes more than a casual walk over the countryside to locate treasures of more than mediocre value. The easy "strikes" were made long ago and the most accessible deposits have been worked and exhausted. However, with modern tools and a knowledge of geology, serious prospectors, even today, can hit pay dirt. Finding a valuable gem or ore deposit can kindle a brand-new kind of excitement in anyone!

To get an idea how a modern prospector operates, we contacted King Fisher and learned about tools and methods which can be used by families who engage in these hobbies for fun or profit. A professional prospector, gem hunter and lapidary, King recently turned his attention to prospecting for space age metals. Although most prospectors are secretive about their equipment and methods, King invited us to photograph a number of the devices he uses in his interesting vocation. In addition, he offered many useful tips for amateurs and pointed out areas where finds can be made.

The rockhound and gem collector will

be interested in King's Gem Separator. This is a simple but highly efficient device for separating gemstones from their overburden. It lets gravity do most of the work. Three inclined screens of different sizes feed one into the other, grade the stones to size and let the tailings pass through to the ground. With the finds on a level plane, gemstones are readily identified and quickly retrieved. The separator can be set up in five minutes. It folds flat for an easy carry and weighs under 30 pounds. King says anyone can build it in a day and it costs less than \$20.

The average gem hunter, King explained, walks over more valuables than he finds because he searches only on the surface. While this material represents the most recent deposits, the valuable gems were buried during an earlier geological period. Having been subjected to the sorting action of water, these valuables can be found beneath the surface, covered by several feet of overburden. By digging a small hole a few feet deep and putting this material through the separator, it is easy to find the level at which top-quality gemstones were deposited. Once this level is located, the operator



With a few carriage bolts and wing nuts, King can set up his portable separator in five minutes.



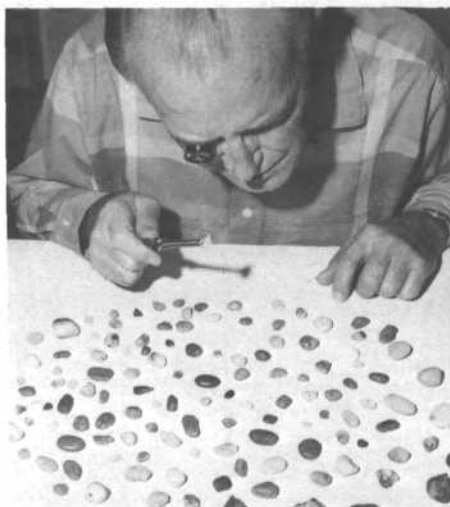
When working with bankrun containing a large amount of rubble, King uses a 1/2" grizzly to screen off unwanted material. Note the 4 foot wings with rods driven into the ground to deflect water into the sluice for an increased flow.



Quarter-inch perforated metal plates carry off all gross material, allowing only the smaller particles to enter the riffle area below. Sections overlap one inch and are held together with bolt and wing nuts; a stepped wedge prevents over-tightening.



King tests a piece of black magnetite for possible gold content. Many tests call for the application of heat to speed identification. A small alcohol lamp is a handy accessory. The kit can be used to test specimens for more than 50 metals of value.



Each stone is carefully inspected with a lens for identification.

can retrieve as many gems as his time allows. The separator works as well in a live streambed as in a desert arroyo.

Quartz-family gems are the most prolific and the easiest to find. These include agate, jasper, carnelian, rose quartz, onyx and amethyst. Our deserts yield these gems in surprising quantities, though they can be found in many areas, even on the beaches. For your first desert exploration it is suggested that you inspect an arroyo near a paved road. If gemstones were carried down this dry wash, they generally will be found scattered throughout its length. Many fine-quality agates have been found in arroyos near Interstate 10 and along State Highway 14. Quartz crystals and smokey quartz are abundant east of US 395, between Lone Pine and Independence.

For those who like to prospect for placer gold, King suggests they use a 12-foot sluice like the one he carries in his camper. Built of marine plywood, the sluice takes up little room because its three-foot sections nest perfectly. It can be carried by one person. Sluicing for gold has become a seasonable operation for today's prospectors. The small streams in gold areas are still productive, but contain enough water for sluicing only for a few months. Therefore, prospectors must work at a feverish pace during the short season.

That's why many of them are prospecting for space age metals during the remainder of the year. Hobbyists who have a flair for chemistry will find this field exciting. Because of its demand in rocketry, special emphasis is placed on beryllium. Zirconium, molybdenum and columbite also are needed. These space age metals do not occur in the free state like gold, but are contained in ores which closely resemble common rocks. Beryl-

lium is found in pegmatites, a coarse-grained rock which, in its molten state, filled cracks in granite and other igneous deposits. Beryllium ores generally are light in weight, but they are very hard. These ores can be found as surface deposits in many parts of San Diego, San Bernardino and Kern counties.

Old-time prospectors thought they had a bonanza when they found ore worth \$50 per ton. Today, a 10% beryllium ore pays a base price of \$400 per ton, with an additional 10% for each 1% increase in beryllium content! Some ores run as high as 38%, but these deposits usually are small and rarely contain more than a few tons. Because the ore can be sold in small lots of 200 pounds, amateur prospectors are finding beryllium prospecting exceptionally profitable.

When a deposit is located, it's necessary to determine the metallic content of the ore. An assay will show whether it is economically feasible to mine it. Many prospectors carry small chemical kits for this purpose which enable them to make tests on the spot. These tests are neither difficult nor dangerous, but they are conclusive. Books are available that describe them in detail.

Whether your outdoor passion is for gems, gold or space age metals, you'll enjoy every minute of your family safaris. Regardless of where your search area lies—along a rippling mountain stream or through a dry desert arroyo—keep an eye open for old prospect holes and abandoned mine dumps. Their tailing piles are fertile fields because often they contain gems and minerals which are extremely valuable today, but were discarded by the old-time prospectors as worthless. These old-timers are really your partners—because they did your digging for you! □



Feeding shovelfuls of dry material into the separator, King shows sorting action of inclined screens.



Swatches of adhesive tape on each rock hold identifying number of discovery area.

Enchantment at Chiricachua

by Steve Sherman



HE deep southeastern corner of Arizona is spotted with a fascinating array of famous state and national landmarks from Saguaro and Tumacacori to Fort Bowie and Tombstone. But probably one of the least-known and least-visited fantasylands of nature is the Chiricachua National Monument, an enchanting oasis between two horizons of desert. The Monument, about 100 miles east of Tucson, is bounded by U.S. Highways 666 and 80 on their way to Douglas at the Mexican border.

The magic of Chiricachua is its wonder of strange geological shapes and shadows. The setting is not in the middle of an ancient dry lake, but amid a mountain forest. Rugged columns of rock rise up through the trees in weird military formation. Silhouettes of the stone pillars made it easy for Rangers to give them such names as Mushroom Rock, China Boy, Duck on a Rock, Punch and Judy and, the most photographed of all, Big Balanced Rock. The latter, 25-feet high and 22-feet in diameter, balances 1000 tons on a slender joint.

Only 17 square miles, the Monument is small in comparison to others better known, but this is part of the delight of Chiricachua. The seven mile Bonita Canyon Road is the only road in the Monument. The rest is covered by 15 miles of compact, easy-to-follow trails which range from quick quarter-mile jaunts to five mile hikes through valleys and up and down mountain sides. All are well marked, well graded, and interesting.

One of the best hikes is the three-and-a-half-mile trail from Massai Point to the Heart of the Rocks, the most famous section of the Monument. The trail passes through small gulches with trees and stone towers, up the side of a mountain, and then along the top lip of the highest ridge of the Monument before dropping down into the Heart of the Rocks. It's in this canyon the trail winds among pillars and pylons from one beautiful area to another. Vantage points along the way offer intriguing sights and scenes. A half-mile tributary trail to Inspiration Point gives an overall view of a large section of the country.

In this rarely visited park it is possible to walk the trails without meeting friend, foe or stranger—a treat not frequent in

other national parks. Horses are available at Faraway Ranch, if riding the trails appeals more than wearing down shoes and stamina. Most of the trails are open to horseback trips. A campground with 37 sites, drinking water, fireplaces, and tables is located about a half-mile from Monument headquarters. There is a small camping fee, but no fee for entrance into the area.

The elevation of the Monument supports a curious range of vegetation and animal life. Manzanitas and madrones are widely interspersed with sycamore and Arizona cypress. Scrub oak, yuccas, century plants, cacti and, with seasonal changes, varieties of wildflowers grow at random. Arizona white-tailed deer, coatis,



peccaries, and birds of many species inhabit the region.

But, of course, the major feature of Chiricachua is its peculiar pinnacles and balanced rocks. Geologists consider the Monument a result of millions of years of unrelenting erosion by wind and water after a series of volcanic activity had formed layers of rocks of varying hardness.

Not only is the Monument a scenic spot but it also contains romantic history of the westward movement. Its very name comes from the Chiricachua Apache Indians who made the area their ancestral home. With the advancement of settlers to the West in the middle 1800s, the

Chiricachua Mountains became more and more a stronghold of the Apaches in their strikes against the Mexican and encroaching white man. U.S. Cavalry and troops were sent to the region to protect travelers and cargo on the Butterfield Route that passed through the Southwest. Fort Bowie was established in 1862 at Apache Pass at the end of the Chiricachua Mountains, north of the Monument, as a check against marauding Apaches.

Geronimo, Cochise, and "Big Foot" Massai were three famous Apaches who used Chiricachua as a hideout during their resistance. Geronimo surrendered his band of renegades near Chiricachua in 1886. All three names are immortalized in the area.

This wonderland was first discovered by white man by accident in 1886. Colonel Hughes Stafford and Sergeant Neil Erickson followed the trail of Massai, who had stolen a horse from Stafford, through the rocks to the formation later called Massai Point. The two soldiers found the horse, but not the thief.

It was Erickson who spent many days exploring the region and discovering further beauties. Afterward he brought the Chiricachua region to the attention of the government and general public. Finally, on April 18, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge declared the Chiricachua area a national monument. □

Inside China Lake

by Roger Mitchell

Author of "Exploring Joshua Tree"



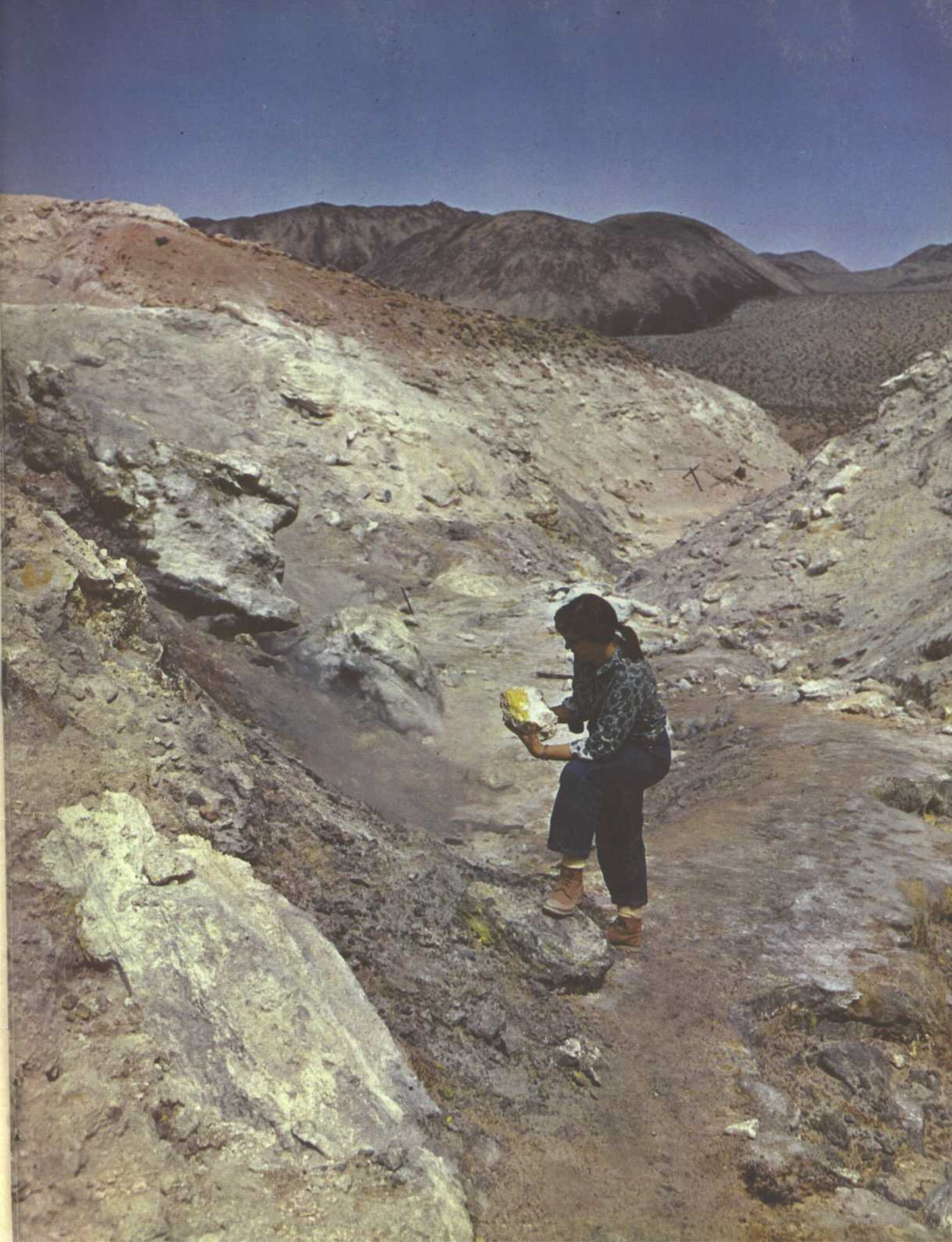
Petroglyphs at Renegade Canyon depict bighorn almost life size.



IT WAS like turning the clock back three decades. The old buildings appeared somewhat the worse for wear, but there was a remarkable absence of bullet holes and other signs of senseless vandalism so often associated with Western ghost towns of today.

I was exploring the ruins of Coso, a mining camp dating back to 1860. It was last occupied just before World War II, when a few sourdoughs still roamed the arid hills of Inyo County, California. Then on November 8, 1943, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox signed an order withdrawing a vast area of 1198 square miles from public use. This area, only 16 square miles smaller than the State of Rhode Island, was to be used in connection with wartime rocket and missile development.

Today, important research is still centered in the famous Michelson Laboratory and China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station still remains "OFF LIMITS" to the public, unless permission to visit it is secured. Since 1943 access to the Coso Mountains, the western flank of the Argus Range, and the northern half of the Indian Wells Valley has been tightly controlled by the Navy and generally restricted to base employees, which accounts for the remarkable state of preservation to be found among the old mines and other points of interest within the base.





Perhaps the most noteworthy feature is the outstanding examples of early primitive art. The basalt cliffs of Renegade and Big and Little Petroglyph Canyons abound with them. Rather than the abstract geometric forms frequently found in the Southwest, these petroglyphs feature recognizable forms. Deer and snakes are well represented, but the early inhabitants of this land must have been preoccupied with the desert bighorn sheep. At every petroglyph site these predominate, sometimes of life size. A close look might even reveal a hunting scene with an arrow protruding from a running animal.

Apparently early Indians found abundant game in the area. The nearby lava flows and other volcanic rocks provided a generous supply of obsidian with which to make arrowheads and spear points, probably reason enough to attract the ancients to this otherwise desolate land.

It was gold, however, that attracted the white man. In March of 1860 a prospecting party lead by Dr. Darwin French set out to find the then famous Lost Gun-sight Mine. Instead, they found gold in a little valley east of what is now Coso Peak. The word *coso* is taken from a Shoshone word meaning broken coal. Just why Dr. French decided to name the new mining camp Coso is not clear because the veins were found in granite, not coal. As word of the fabulous strike reached the nearest point of civilization, Visalia, 300 miners arrived to work in the mines. There was serious talk about building a trans-Sierra wagon road, until the spring of 1862 when serious Indian troubles motivated the entire population of Coso to seek a fortune elsewhere. When the small army of 150 miners returned, they found the town destroyed, except for the steam-powered mill at the Winoshick Mine. Apparently the Indians were awed by the massive and complex machinery. Soon the town was rebuilt and although there was some significant early production, the big bonanza was never found.



Within a few years the district was reorganized and named Spanish Mines by its new inhabitants, a group of Mexican prospectors.

A number of the dozen or so buildings which remain today were last occupied during the depression years of the '30s. Some of these are a century old and sag in the sagebrush near hidden shafts, arastras and millsites.

Equally forgotten and even less known is the mining camp of Millspaugh. Located in the Argus Range a mile or two within the military reservation, this short-lived town flourished around the turn of the century during the Tonopah and Goldfield excitement. Its main business and residential districts have vanished and the industrial section of town is marked only by a few stone walls and a lonely boiler. At one time a road connected Millspaugh with Panamint Valley, but

numerous flash floods in Shepard Canyon have made this route completely impassible, except by foot.

M. H. Farley, an early comer to the Coso Country, found what he thought to be a live volcano. Actually, what he discovered was a fumerole of steam vent. These are associated with the final stages of volcanism, but what Farley saw was far from a live volcano. Two separate thermal areas covering less than a square mile each are found near Cactus Peak in the northwest corner of the base. During World War I there was an unsuccessful attempt to mine sulfur from the area known as the Devil's Kitchen. A decade later the main hot spring area two miles to the east was developed into a health resort. Two massive stone structures remain, as well as smaller wooden buildings. The largest building was the hotel, while other buildings contained the bottling works and hot baths. Quart bottles of Coso Water and its sister product, Volcanic Mud, were sold in Los Angeles and San Francisco. The results were profitable and remarkable. Soon hordes of health seekers began to brave the dusty desert roads to come out and wallow in Coso's hot mud. If a visitor didn't need a hot mineral bath before he left, he sure needed one when he arrived.

In 1929 the mercury ore, cinnabar, was discovered in the Nicol thermal area, adjacent to Devil's Kitchen. Mercury mining started in 1931 and continued intermittently until 1939. While considerable



Ruins of Coso Village, once a spa.

work and expense went into the venture, the total mercury production amounted to less than \$20,000, a small return on the investment. Remains of mercury retorts may still be seen on the Nicol property.

Beyond Coso Hot Springs, a rough and seldom used desert road goes northward some five miles to end at Haiwee Springs. The spring is seldom dry, although range cattle often pollute the small stream below the springs. Canyon walls near the springs are covered with petroglyphs similar to those a few miles to the south.

All of this land within China Lake N.O.T.S. is restricted to public entry except by special permit. I have found however, that the Naval authorities are cooperative in granting special weekend passes whenever possible. Firing tests and other range activity usually rule out week-day visits. To visit a specific place on the base, you should request permission to do so by writing Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California 93555. Then, between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. on the day before your proposed visit, call the Base Security Police (phone area code 714, 375-1411 ext. 71330). At that time you will be advised as to whether or not the range is open and the status of your request. On the following morning it will then be necessary for each driver to appear at the Base Security Office at the Main Gate to sign the Recreation Pass and obtain keys to the various locked gates encountered. A minimum of two vehicles is required for any trip on the range. Water, food, and a shovel must be carried in each vehicle. Overnight camping is prohibited and all visitors must clear the area by sunset.

To reach Coso Hot Springs it is necessary to go to Inyokern, then take highway 395 some 29 miles north to Gil's Oasis. Here a good road goes east 11.7 miles to the thermal area. Visitors should not get too close to the unprotected gysers and hot springs. A "hot-foot" in 212° water is no fun, and the Department of Defense assumes no liability for your safety. It is permissible to continue on to Haiwee Spring, but only 4-wheel drive vehicles can proceed past Coso Hot Springs.

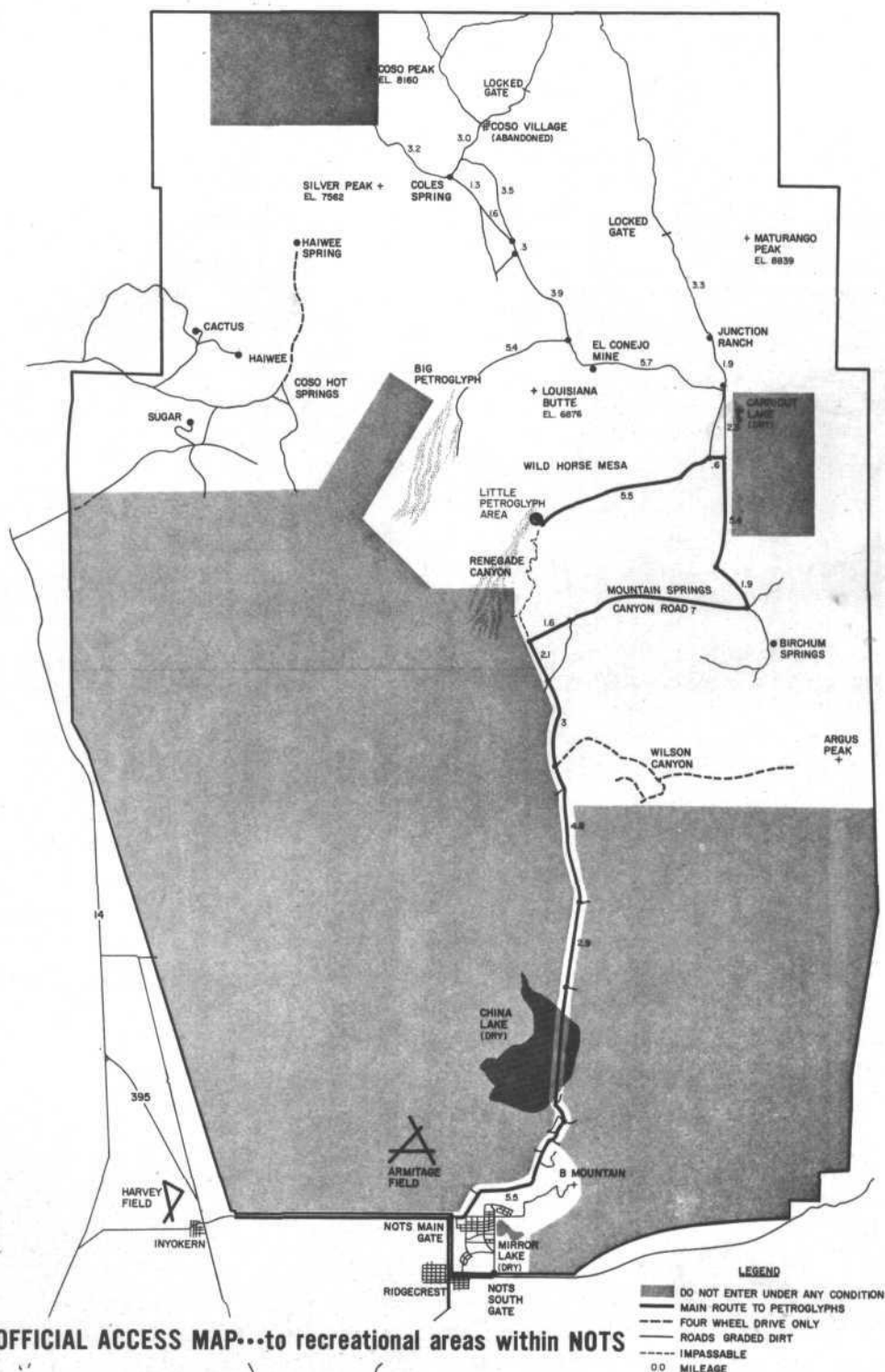
To visit the petroglyph area, or Coso Village, the procedure is the same. These locations are reached by way of Mountain Springs Canyon, however, and it is not necessary to first go off the base. The route is marked and the Security Police will provide you with a map.

Regardless of your destination, any trip on the base should include the Maturango Museum. It is located in a long building on the north side of Halsey Avenue, 100

yards east of Switzer Circle. The person at the pass desk in the main gate can direct you. Besides a publication program (which includes a guide to Coso Hot Springs, 75¢) the Maturango Museum also conducts local field trips each month, which include sites both on and off the base. If you don't want to bother with the red tape required for a special pass, you may join this group on an outing. More information may be obtained by writing Maturango Museum, P.O. Box 5514, China Lake, California 93556.

There are those who are highly critical

of the military for tying up much of our desert land so that the public is barred from enjoying it. In the case of China Lake N.O.T.S., however, I'm not so sure it hasn't been a good thing. I wonder just what state of preservation some of these historic sites would be in without the protection they have been afforded these past 25 years. Would the petroglyphs be vandalized like those elsewhere? Would the sites of Coso Village and Coso Hot Springs be torn apart by the few bottle hunters who are careless? I have no reason to think otherwise. □



OFFICIAL ACCESS MAP...to recreational areas within NOTS

Our home was saved by

The Hard Cash Saloon

by H. C. Henderson



IT HAS been about 16 years since our family made our first trip to the Mojave Desert to look for rocks. A great many enjoyable trips were to follow. Upon our return from each one a new prize inevitably found its way into our house. Eventually prize rocks became so numerous that it was necessary to remove some of the less desirable specimens.

This is where our problem arose. What does one do with an extra specimen in a house already full to overflowing?

Obviously, the overflow had to go out of the house, but you don't just pile "good" rocks out in the yard. They must

be seen by people to be enjoyed. They must be touched, turned and moistened to see if they will polish. Beautiful specimens under a bench or behind a shed are of no value to anyone.

To solve this problem, we fixed up a shed on the back of the lot and moved the collection from the house. The overflow from the yard, and the cutting and polishing equipment also went into the new quarters. This was wonderful. We could display our rock specimens, work on projects and store raw materials with no more mess in the house and no more worry about overflow.

During the next few years many enjoyable hours were spent with rockhound friends in our rockshop. The equipment

was kept busy and the coffee pot brewing most of the evenings during the week. Then it happened!

We started bringing home old bottles and glassware we found around the mine dumps where we looked for mineral specimens. Next we began visiting deserted mining camps, looking for the purple bottles. For the next two years, bottle hunting became our hobby. We bought books from which to learn their identity and history, maps for locations of ghost towns and deserted mining camps. Tubs were set up for washing bottles and racks were built to display them on.

There were groups of purple bottles, bitters bottles and bottles of special interest. Large and small bottles, jugs, crockery, fruit jars, insulators, bits of jewelry, old coins and watches—then, of course, came barbed wire samples, blacksmith shop bellows and rolled and riveted iron pipe that had come "around the Horn." Treasures of this type started to pile up in our rock shop and creep into our house.

Once again we were faced with the problem of displaying our treasures so that others might enjoy them with us. The fact that we were enlarging our problem by collecting these items was minimized by our fear that vandals would thoughtlessly ruin them, or they would eventually rust away if left unprotected. Then, gradually, a solution began to materialize. From a store in town we were given some counters. We worked one into a bar and set it up in a re-vamped single garage. Utilizing old mirrors, planks, 2 x 4 lumber, and odds and ends, we then created a back bar. By using some old glass shelves and glass separators from a long-gone drug store, the back bar provided a means for displaying the best of our liquor and beverage bottles.

At one end of the bar, against the wall, are shelves for the "Patented" medicine bottles and a cabinet for the fabulous old fruit jars. At the other end is a glass display case containing some of the more fragile items. Again, using the glass sep-



The author, with Chico, greets visitors in front of hotel.

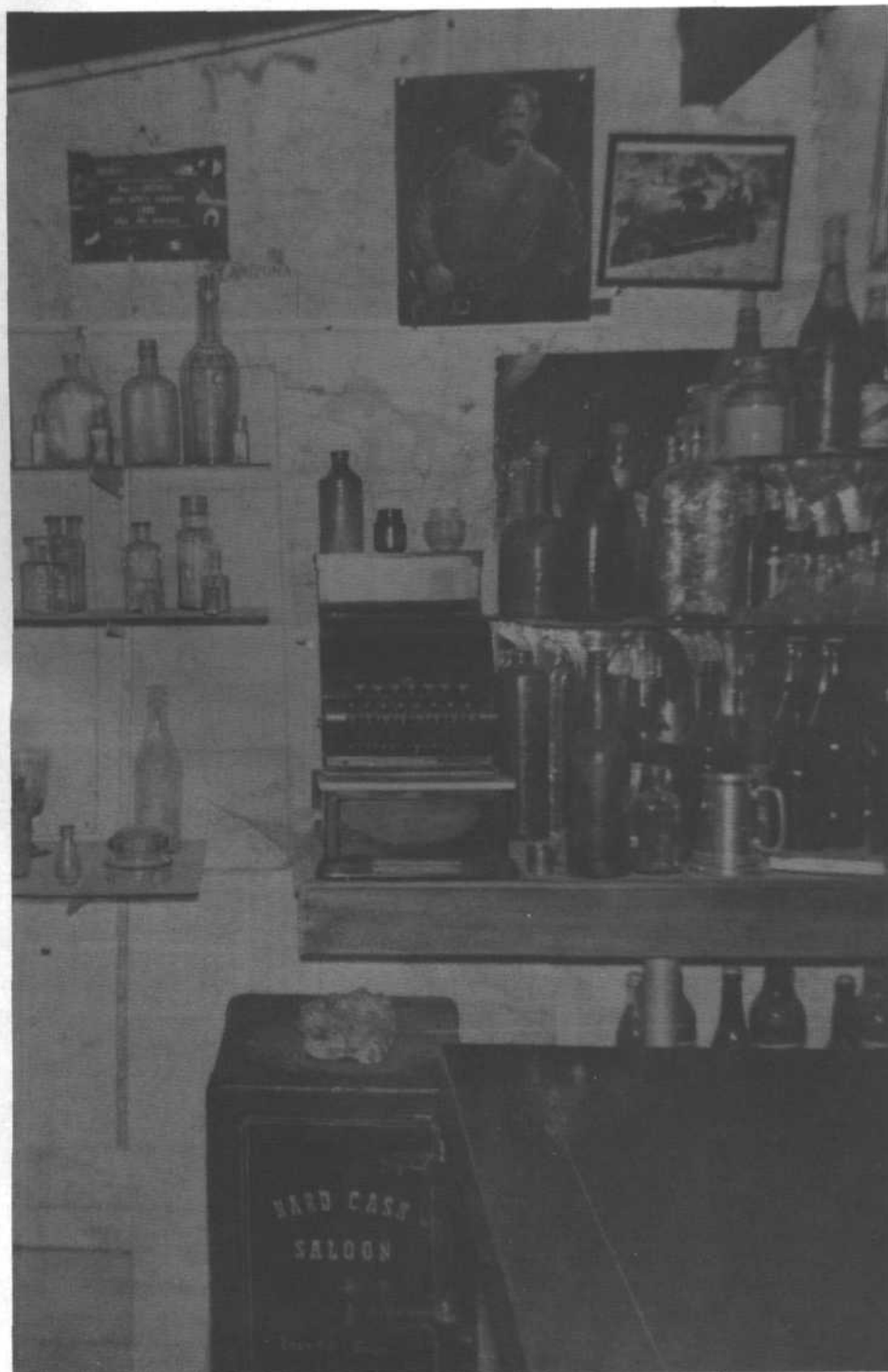
arators and glass shelves on top of the case, a nice display has been built of purple, amber, cobalt blue, and green glass bottles that reaches to the top of the large window. This area soon became known as the Hard Cash Saloon. With sawdust to cover the concrete floor and a brass spittoon, it acquired a real frontier atmosphere.

Next we erected a sign outside upon which we coined the name Iona City. Soon a street was born. Bordered on one side by the saloon and on the other by a two-story, false-front hotel, our project

grew into an ambitious plan. As the idea of a ghost town gained support, the town continued to expand and improve. A two-story building was constructed to be the Frontier Brewery. This houses the beer bottle collection on the ground floor, while on the second floor, which is open to the sun, racks hold bottles that are in all stages of turning purple.

The Stove and Iron Works is the building in which welding equipment and work benches are housed. An Assay Office was added in connection with the rock shop. This is the location of the old desk

The saloon and all other buildings are furnished with relics of the Old West.



RENT

A NEW COMMANDER 720
GOLDAK
METAL LOCATOR

by

DAY • WEEKEND • OR LONGER

LOW COST
NO DEPOSIT

RENTAL CAN APPLY
TO PURCHASE PRICE
Only \$149.50

\$16.00 down \$16.00 month

Your **BANKAMERICARD** Welcome

STAR
SALES

5426 RESEDA BLVD., TARZANA, CALIF.

When in Palm Springs rentals can be obtained
at the Sun & Sands, 568 Warm Sands Drive,
Palm Springs 714/327-8112

CALL (213) **343-2550** DAY/
NIGHT
Hours — Daily 10:30-9 p.m. — Sunday 12-9 p.m.



Bottles are placed on screen racks to purple in the sun.



The Frontier Brewery Co. stands next to the Stove and Iron Works.



View of Main Street in Iona City.



Old bottles decorate back wall of bar.



"NOT SON-OF-A-GUN STEW, AGAIN!!"

and swivel chair. Many old books and tools of the assay trade are here, as well as a gold display. Next came the hay barn. It is used to keep hay and grain for the ducks, goats, and Chico, the burro.

Two more false-front buildings are on the street. One is the Iona City Mining and Supply Co. where old items used in the mines are displayed and the other is the City Jail. Adjoining the Assay Office are two work areas, one for rebuilding and refinishing old furniture, the other for leather craft. On a bench here, along with the modern tools, are the hand tools used by my grandfather in his business as a saddle and harness maker many years ago.

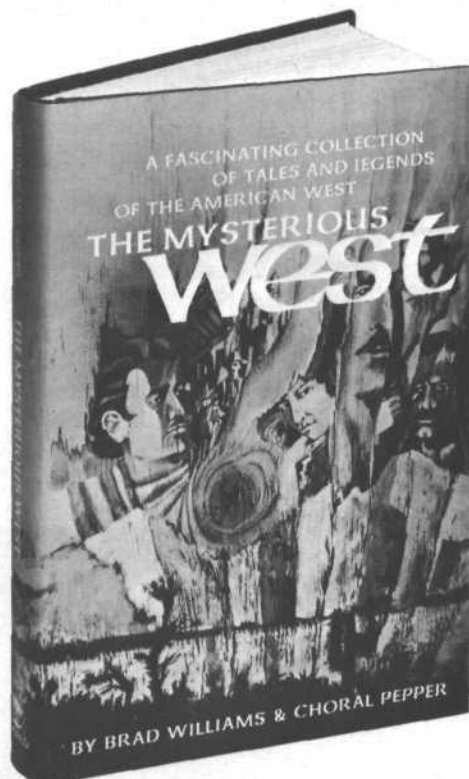
On down the street a stone house was built of concrete block to store extra gem stone material and mineral samples. At the start of this project, sand and gravel were taken from an open hole in the back yard to be screened for use in mixing concrete. The open hole has since been transformed into a shaft down to a stope that follows the vein of sand and gravel at about the 10-foot level. It is complete with timber sets and cribbing to prevent cave-ins. The "ore" is mucked out to the shaft, brought to the surface in a small ore car on angle-iron tracks, and dumped over a set of screens for separation into the desired grades for concrete. We have named this the "Lost-Red Lizzard Mine" so Iona City has its own lost mine.

A path leads from the main street to a secluded fountain and barbecue area called "Church Socials and Hangin's." Another cross street leads to Crystal Lake, the swimming pool. There is also a City Dump where bottles are spread out on racks for sorting when they are brought in from field trips.

Many items have been given to us for display, such things as an old family Bible, tin-type photographs, dishes, silverware, clocks, spectacles, razors, a stereoptican viewer and some pictures, cast iron pull-toys, and the safe that now bears the name, *Hard Cash Saloon, Iona City*. Each item has been logged in a book with the donor's name, the date, and its history. Nothing is for sale, nothing can be bought. It is there for people to see free of charge. It is a hobby.

The Hard Cash Saloon saved our home by starting a new trend of activity in our yard. It may seem a little crowded at times, but our only real problem is one we can't lick—there just aren't enough hours in the day to do all the things we would like to do. □

Here's a book with new factual evidence on the legends of the West.



THE MYSTERIOUS WEST.

by Brad Williams and
Choral Pepper \$5.95

This book examines many little-known stories and legends that have emerged from the western regions of North America. Two unsolved mysteries, unearthed in this century and detailed in this absorbing book, furnish evidence that the earliest European navigators to set foot on American soil date back to ancient times. Old Roman artifacts buried near Tucson, Arizona, and Phoenician hieroglyphics inscribed on a rock uncovered some miles southwest of Albuquerque, New Mexico, raise startling questions about America's past. Are these genuine archeological finds or elaborately conceived and executed hoaxes? These unusual discoveries form but a small part of the intriguing history, legend, and folklore that make up

THE MYSTERIOUS WEST.

Included are such phenomena as the discovery of a Spanish galleon in the middle of the desert; the strange curse that rules over San Miguel Island; the unexplained beheading of at least 13 victims in the Nahanni Valley; and many other equally bewildering happenings. Elaborate confidence schemes and fantastically imagined hoaxes are documented, along with new factual evidence that seems to corroborate what were formerly assumed to be tall tales.

Illustrated with photographs, this fascinating survey of Western Americana will be welcomed by all readers interested in the folklore and history of the United States.

About the authors:

BRAD WILLIAMS has worked for various newspapers ranging in location from Oregon and California, to Mexico and India. He has published several mystery novels and nonfiction works; his books include *Flight 967* and *Due Process*.

CHORAL PEPPER hails from the mysterious west — Palm Desert, California. She is the editor of *Desert Magazine* and she has been a columnist, free-lance writer, and author. Her most recent book is *Zodiac Parties*.



Send check or money order to Desert Magazine Book Shop, Palm Desert, California 92260. Add 25¢ for postage and handling. California residents add 5% sales tax.



THE WORLD PUBLISHING COMPANY

A SUBSIDIARY OF THE TIMES MIRROR COMPANY
Cleveland and New York

Lowest Photo Print Prices Highest Quality

KODACOLOR FILM
DEVELOPED & PRINTED

8 Jumbo Prints	\$1.78
12 Jumbo Prints	\$2.42
12 Jumbo Prints and New Roll of Kodacolor (except 126)	\$3.30
12 Jumbo Prints and New Roll of Kodacolor 126	\$3.50
Kodacolor Neg reprints	\$.16



Send for price sheets
and envelopes
All other
Photo prices are
comparably low

MARKET BASKET PHOTO CO.

P. O. Box 370, Yuma, Arizona 85364 or
P. O. Box 2830, San Diego, Calif. 92112

TREASURE HUNTERS

\$750.00 in prizes

Yuma's Treasure Festival February 17, Yuma, Arizona. February 17-18, Coin Show, Bourse, Exhibits and Displays. February 16-18, Gun Show, Best in the West—275 tables. For details write: Yuma Coin Club, c/o Yuma Chamber, 200 West First., Yuma, Ariz. 83564.

MOVING?

SO YOU WILL NOT MISS AN ISSUE
NOTIFY US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Be sure to include old address
as well as the new
AND BOTH ZIP CODES!

Desert



STOP

That thief with "LOCK STRAP"!

A revolutionary new design
attaches to front and
rear slot. For all G.I. cans
and all 6" high rear
panels. All steel construc-
tion and electric welded.

TYPE E ONLY \$5.00

Calif. residents add
5% sales tax.

SEND FOR FREE BROCHURE SHOWING FIVE
OTHER MODELS TO FIT ANY VEHICLE.
DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED.

LOCK STRAP

329 West Lomita Ave., Dept. D, Glendale, Calif. 91204

A Mecca, Not a Mirage

by Laura Raef



IN A state which has legalized gambling—where with the revolving of a wheel or the flip of a card fortunes are lost—it is interesting to find a city which rejects the laws that encourage this. Boulder City, Nevada, only 22 miles from the popular playground of Las Vegas, rebels by making her own laws. This city forbids gambling as well as the sale of hard liquor. According to Chamber of Commerce director Donald C. Bivins, who smiled when he said it, to have hard liquor in one's own home is actually illegal in Boulder City.

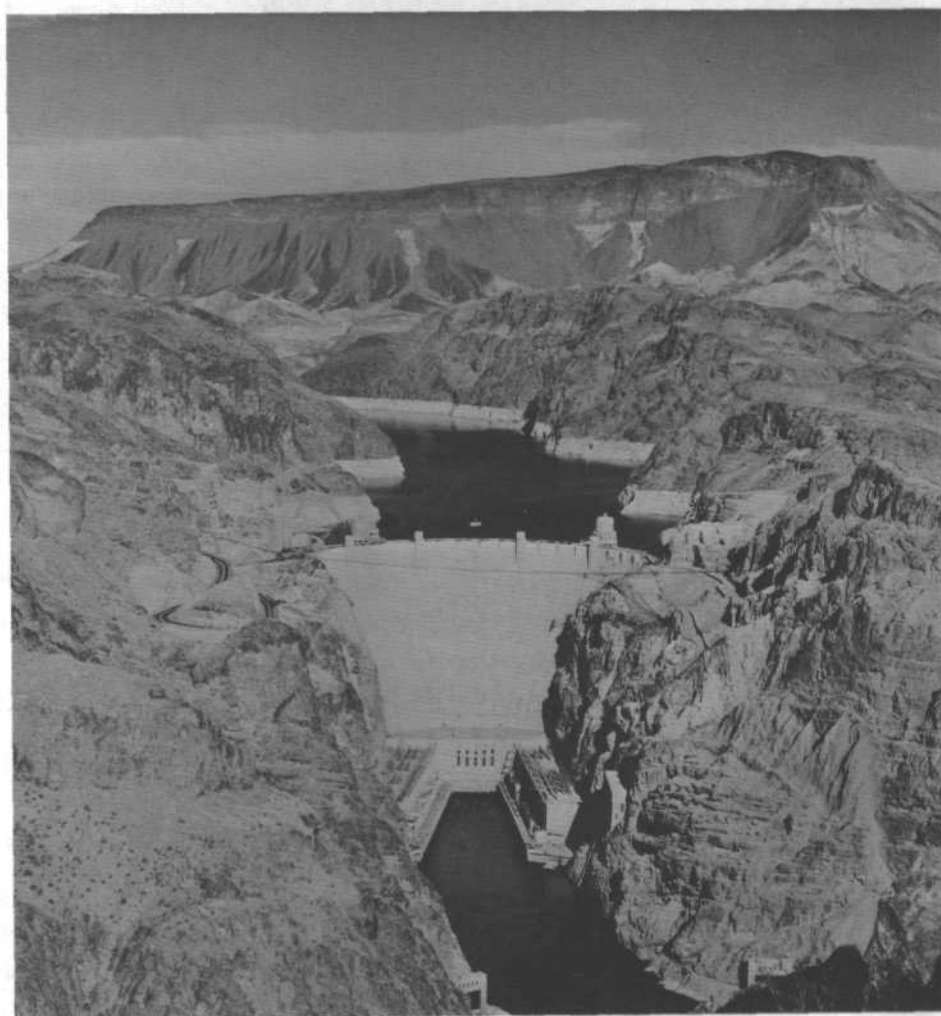
After having seen nothing but dry, hot desert for hundreds of miles, many a weary traveler is sure he is witnessing a mirage when he comes upon this oasis of shady trees and grass carpeting. Nearby is found Hoover Dam and Lake Mead, one of America's most popular recreational areas where three million visitors

are attracted to the man-made lake each year. It is an all-season resort featuring boating, fishing, swimming and water skiing.

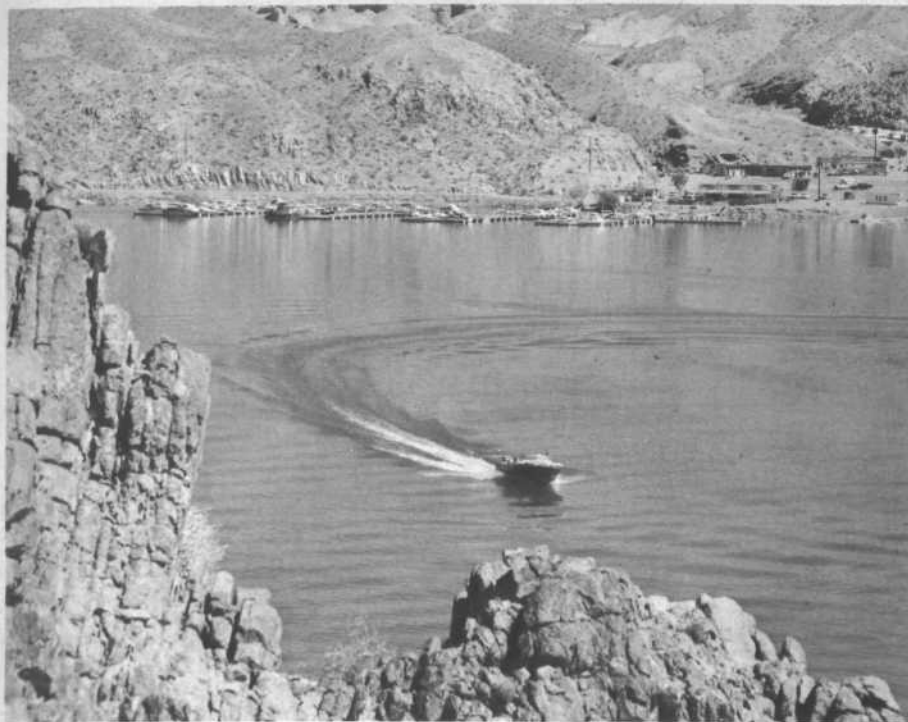
Named for Dr. Elwood Mead, commissioner of Reclamation from 1924 to 1936, Lake Mead reaches 115 miles upstream into the lower end of Grand Canyon and its shoreline measures 550 miles. Included in the administration by the National Park Service also is Lake Mohave, which extends from Hoover Dam to Davis Dam—67 miles downstream.

Boulder City's original purpose was to house and serve construction workers building Hoover Dam. Carefully planned and cared for, it was designed to become a "clean and green oasis" featuring beautiful parks. Today it is a mecca for retired people, but it has all the necessary requisites for family life and permanent living.

Ruled under a charter written in 1959, the town became self-governing in 1960.



Boulder Canyon, home of Hoover Dam, lies on the fringe of Boulder City.



A five-member council elects a mayor from the council and employs a city manager. Federal Government offices have remained a major employer and five offices are located in the town. Although this boosts the town's economy, many other residents are employed in caring for the growing number of tourists who visit Hoover Dam and Lake Mead. Many residents are also employed at the industrial town of Henderson, between Boulder City and Las Vegas.

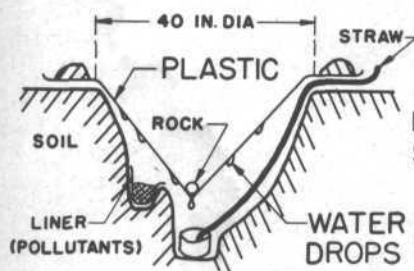
Boulder City enjoys good, uncrowded schools, an excellent public library and churches of all faiths. Healthy outdoor recreation is encouraged with three lighted grass ball fields, two recreational parks and a public swimming pool. Rodeos, in-board motor races, water ski races, and parades are held annually to celebrate

various holidays. The climate, of course, is comfortable all winter and most residents find it agreeable even during hot summer months, as the nights are cool and the air is dry.

When asked why, in a state where legalized gambling brings in a heap of revenue, the city outlawed it, Mr. Bivins replied, "The people wanted it that way. It was their choice by vote. In spite of this, the tax rate is the lowest in Nevada and the municipality itself has no bonded indebtedness."

When reminded of gambling and drinking in an area where fishing is permitted year round and where swim some of the Southwest's biggest rainbow trout (Lake Mohave), large bass, crappie, and catfish (Lake Mead), it makes one ask himself, "Who needs it?" □

SUN STILL Survival Kit



NEW PROCESS PRODUCES 1 TO 2 QUARTS OF PURE WATER DAILY IN DRIEST DESERT

A Reusable kit for Survival and a Fascinating Experiment for the Young Scientist. Easy to install and operate.

Complete Kit \$2.49

Send Check or Money Order plus 25c postage to:

DESERT MAGAZINE

Palm Desert, California 92260

California residents add 12c sales tax

FINDING LOST TREASURE

... an exciting hobby for the great outdoors that really pays off!

THE MODEL 7-1 AND 711-1 METAL DETECTORS ARE WORLD FAMOUS IN DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE



JEWELRY CRAFTS CATALOG



FREE!

196 pages

Lapidary - rockhounding - jewelry making... add up to a fascinating creative art!

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG

GET CRAFT'S BIGGEST CATALOG

World's largest selection - over 10,000 items offered... imports from all parts of the world.

STONES - JEWELRY MATERIALS - MOUNTINGS BOOKS - CRAFT TOOLS - MACHINERY - SUPPLIES - ETC.

GRIEGER'S, INC.

Dept 52 - 1633 E. Walnut - Pasadena, Calif.

FREE CATALOG



FUN & PROFIT

WITH

METAL DETECTORS

GOLDAK, WHITE'S, DETECTRON, RAYSCOPE

Prospecting and Hiking Equipment

Books - Topo Maps

FREE - Indexes for Topo Maps, stock Western states, each state has index.

JACOBSEN SUPPLIERS

9322 California Ave., South Gate, Calif.
Phone 569-8041 90280

As featured on T.V. the experts agree:

KOVACS

CUSTOM MADE METAL DETECTORS ARE THE BEST

Detect Gold Nuggets and Coins
Interchangeable Loops

Lightweight - Waterproof

4 Years Warranty - Free Literature

MIKE KOVACS

4118 1/2 Verdugo Road

Los Angeles, Cal. 90065 Phone 255-1129

FREE 32 page CATALOG

ARMSTRONG

HI-FLOTATION TIRES

FULL SET OF 4 - 11-00 x 15" 6 PLY GENUINE ARMSTRONG TIRES, TUBES, & 9" WIDE ONE PIECE WHEELS - \$199.95 FEDERAL EXCISE TAX INCL. no exchange necessary. We ship anywhere.

DICK CEPEK

P.O. BOX 181 -
SOUTH GATE,
CALIFORNIA 90280
569-1675 564-3478

HOURS: Tues. thru Fri. Noon to 8. Sat. 8 to 5. Closed Sun. & Mon.

Cepek 68



SHOWROOM
9623 Calif. Ave.
South Gate, Calif.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
"NO ZIP CODE - NO FREE CATALOG!"

As if history weren't rattled
enough, here is a fourth Pegleg
Smith to mystify hunters of the
desert's black gold.

THE SAGA OF PEGLEG THE FOURTH

BY RETTA EWERS



THREE are the tales of Pegleg Smith and his fabulous lost black gold. Here is a fourth version, told by Mrs. Lawrence Tibbet of Riverside, the daughter-in-law of one of the men who amputated Smith's injured leg.

Jonathan Tibbet was a member of a wagon train on its way to California about 1848. In the group were 110 men and half as many women. They had started out from Independence, Missouri. While traveling the northern route to Fort Laramie, they were joined by several other men, one of whom was Albert Smith, later known as "Pegleg" Smith, who discovered a famous gold deposit that still bears his name. At the time Smith joined the Tibbet's train, he had both his limbs.

Coming south, the train journeyed via Utah. At Chicken Creek, described as "one day's drive by ox-team east of Mountain Meadow," the group encountered a band of roving Indians. A battle ensued and Smith and one woman were wounded by flying arrows; Smith in the leg, the woman in the arm. Afraid of gangrene when the injured limbs refused to heal, Smith decided they should be removed. As there was no surgeon in the party, several men volunteered to do the job with an ordinary carpenter's saw. Smith pulled through, but the woman died of shock. Jonathan Tibbet was one of those who acted as surgeon. Always handy with carpenter's tools, he afterwards fashioned the wooden leg that gave Pegleg his name. The saw used for the

operation is in the private collection of the Tibbet family.

Smith's main object in life was to discover a gold mine for himself. In this he must have been successful, for subsequent trips to the desert always produced an ample supply of sun-burned gold. When he wasn't prospecting, he worked intermittently on the Tibbet ranch near El Monte.

Jonathan Tibbet used to question Smith as to the location of his gold. Smith said his rich deposit was marked by three hills and even drew a map of the region (reputed to still be in the possession of the Tibbet family), but Tibbet didn't ever make a trip to look for it.

Jonathan Tibbet claimed that his father believed Smith had located a rich placer pocket somewhere and made his trips to the spot whenever he needed money, but that it wasn't what you would call a "mine." The younger Tibbet also recalled often seeing Smith hobble about his father's ranch and once rode with him as far as the El Monte post office for the mail when Smith was on his way to the desert to obtain more of his gold.

Smith, like other exuberent prospectors, was never reluctant to talk about his discovery. On one occasion he almost depopulated San Bernardino when its citizens left to search for gold in an area described by Smith. Mrs. Tibbet stated that her husband believed the deposit lay further north than has been supposed by most searchers—possibly northeast of the Salton Sea in the Chocolate Mountains.

This possibility has been more recent-

ly substantiated by three Riverside men who claim they located the area from which came the Pegleg gold. According to their story, they had been following a bob cat trail that led into the hills above Alessandro, a small Indian settlement, when they came to a cave. Inside the cave they found a leather pouch in which was a small jar containing several maps and a letter. The letter was from an Indian woman, thought to have been Albert Smith's common-law wife. It read, "You gone long time. Me no see you. Put black rocks in buzzard's nest. Me go loco stay here. Never come back."

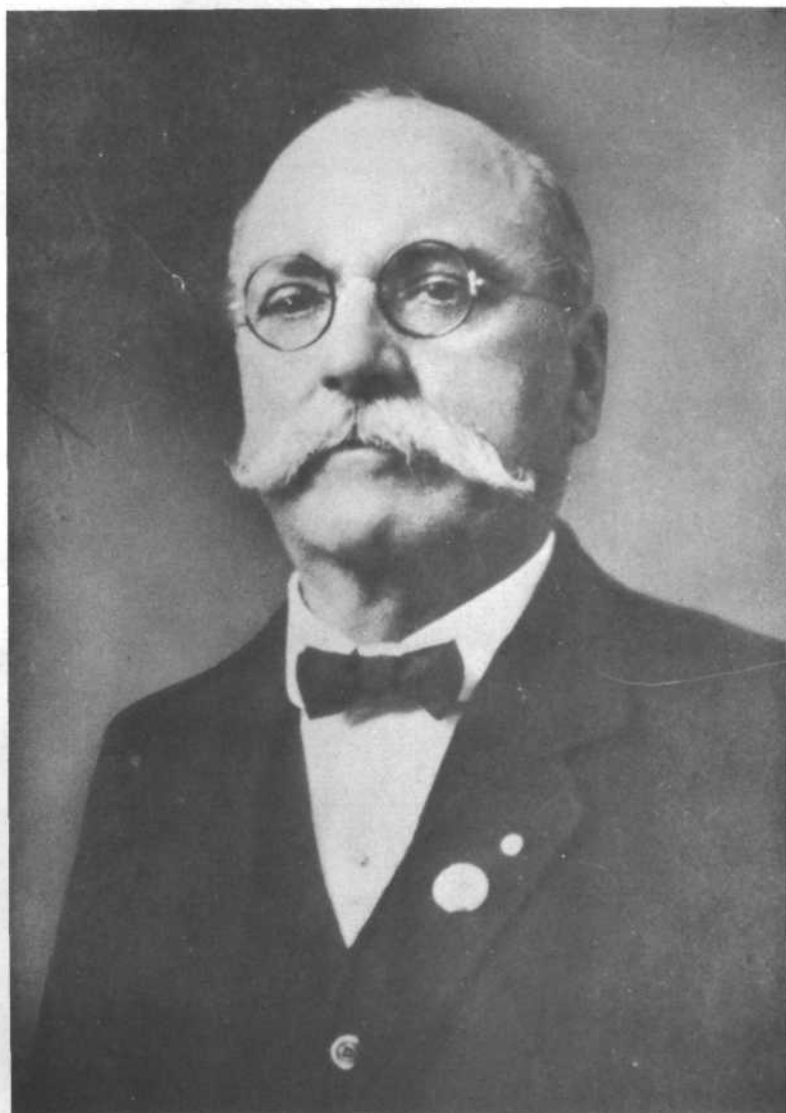
Directions on the map led the three men to a lonely grave in the eastern part of Riverside county. On the map the Salton Sea was called "Salt Sink," which indicates it was not then filled with water. (It was dry until 1906 when the Colorado jumped its banks and filled it.) The men dug into the grave and found another pouch with more maps, seven in all, and gold that assayed \$4000 per ton.

Choosing the map easiest to follow, the explorers penetrated far into the desert to a low range of hills among which was a canyon described on the map as "poison water canyon." Here they found poison water with skeletons of birds and animals scattered among the rocks. Against the side of the canyon was a rude hut. As they approached it, an aged half-breed stepped out with a rifle in his hands. Without further ado, he started to shoot. The three men took to their heels and didn't ask any questions.

They believe this old Indian was perhaps the son of Smith and his squaw wife. That they were on the trail and, perchance, close to it, the men felt certain because of the fact that among the papers from the grave was a bank deposit form made out in the name of Albert Smith for the sum of \$11,000. This canyon was in the northern section of the Chocolate Mountains. The hunters involved wish to remain anonymous.

There are other tales that indicate this area as a hot one for Pegleglophiles—provided they obtain the proper permission from the U.S. Navy to go into the area. (See DESERT, April 1967, page 39.) When the Southern Pacific was pushing its rails toward the coast, an Indian and his squaw stumbled, exhausted, into the construction camp of railway engineers. The squaw carried a heavy load which the men discovered to be black gold, such as that Smith was accustomed to get from his undisclosed claim.

The squaw described the manner in which they had found it. "We got lost," she said. "Climb big hill an' see smoke,



Jonathan Tippet

It was Jonathan Tippet who amputated Smith's leg with a carpenter's saw.

same your camp. At feet lay much black rock—very heavy. Take some. Heap too big load. I want t'row away, but he no let. Me heap tired."

Needless to say, her story started a gold rush, but one-by-one the construction workers returned to camp—tired, thirsty, disheartened.

Then, in 1898 a cowboy named Miguel Escarna came to San Bernardino with \$10,000 worth of black gold. He told no one where he found it, but went to Los Angeles and bought himself a small ranch. From then on he made periodic treks to the desert, as Smith had done, always returning with as

much gold as he could load onto his burro. Every ruse and effort was made to track him, but always he eluded his pursuers. His death was due to a bullet, which allowed him no time to disclose his secret source of gold.

According to an anonymous claimant who told his story to DESERT Magazine, and sent black nuggets to prove it, (March 1965), the black Pegleg gold has been found and garnered from the surface. But for those hardy souls who question his story, or who are hopeful that a few nuggets eluded him, the story of Albert Smith might further pinpoint the location. □

Short Trip to Baja

by Judith Richardson



Jade green, hot spring pools tempt bathers at Puertocitos.

FOR those who have not seen how much of the rest of the world lives, the Baja California road from Mexicali to San Felipe is an enlightening adventure. Along this paved highway you will see civilization as it was 200 years ago, assembled with the jet age. You will see adobe huts with thatched roofs reinforced with ocotillo and next to the hut will stand a piece of modern machinery. The land surrounding Mexicali is fertile with fields of alfalfa, cotton and vegetables. Cotton is the main crop here

and the Mexican government recently cleared thousands of acres more for private farming.

Finally, as you wind your way down the paved highway toward its finale at San Felipe, you enter into an arid area framed by cinder cones. These are left over from what were large and active volcanoes long ago. At one time this entire area was covered by a sea, which has left an inland reminder in the Colorado Desert, the Salton Sea. Soon, on your left, you will see tide lands and vast salt flats. Then, all at once, there it is, the blue, blue Sea of Cortez! From this point the

road parallels the sea until you reach the village of San Felipe.

San Felipe is a primitive fishing village with about 400 inhabitants, or so the sign on the edge of town reads. This must include the horses, goats, cattle and pets. However, no matter what time of day or year, it is a busy little town consisting of about three blocks of paved streets. Here you may purchase supplies, including gasoline and a few extras such as home-made skyrockets, tortillas hot off the fire, fresh fruit and vegetables, Mexican cerveza, canned goods and *pan dulce*, those wonderful sweet rolls of Mexico. The big

thing here, though, is to walk down to the beach and buy jumbo shrimp fresh off the shrimp boats as they come in with their morning's catch.

With a can of Mexican hot sauce obtained from one of the stores, you can concoct a shrimp dinner in camp that is a real gourmet treat by simply dumping the shrimp into a bucket of boiling water and cooking it until legs and shells shuck off with a little pull. Then, after shucking the shrimp, dip them into the sauce. Serve with a pan full of french fries topped with cottage cheese, sliced tomatoes and a hot tortilla. You'll be wondering what poor people do on a night like this!

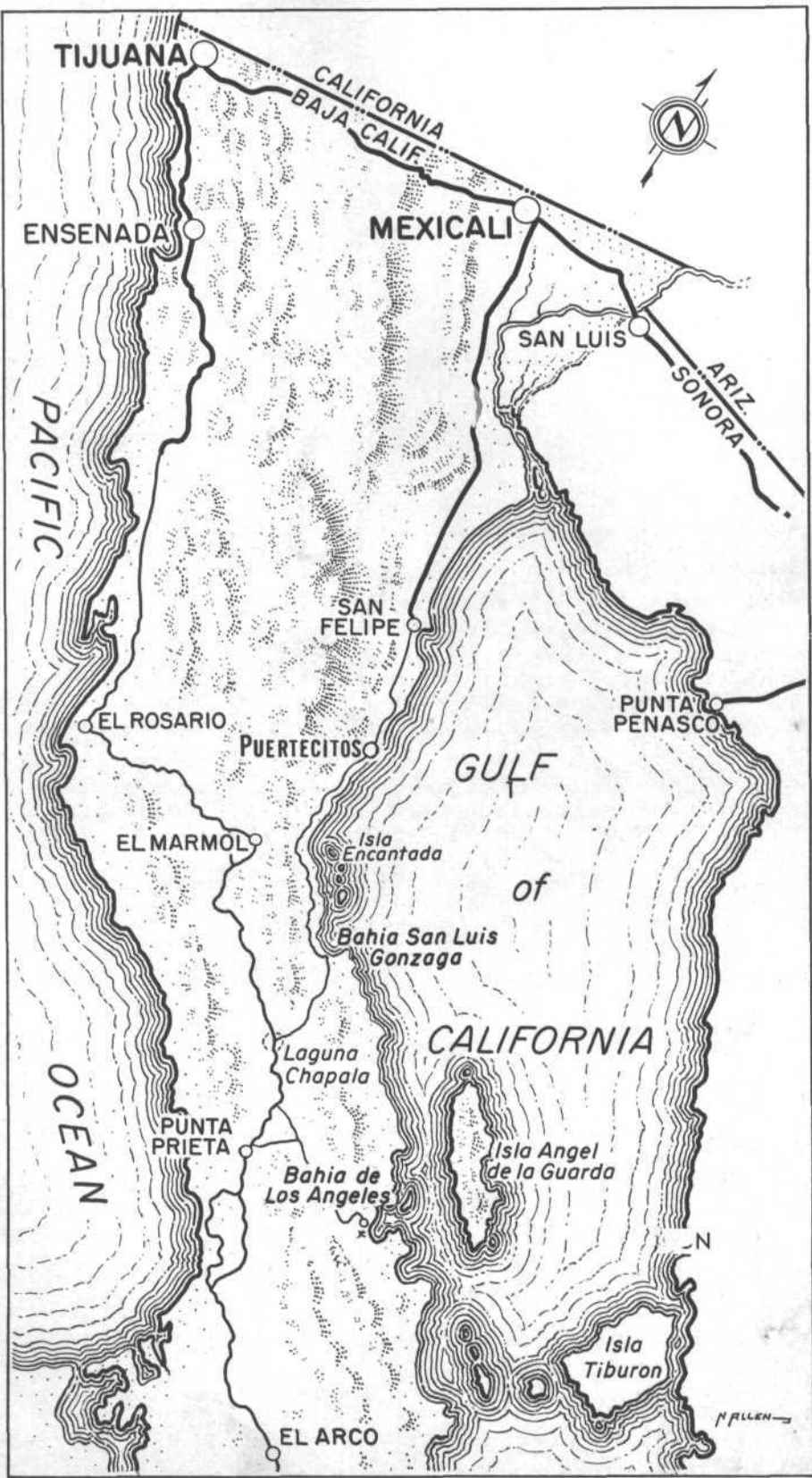
South of town the highway now becomes a one-lane dirt road. Though there are numerous ruts, we made it in a Mustang passenger car by keeping our speed down to 12 mph and our eyes open. However, a pick-up truck or four-wheeler is preferable. About 35 miles south of San Felipe and still running parallel to the sea, you will come to some sulfur mines located on both sides of the road. Turn left here and drive toward the beach to Nuevo Mazatlan, a lagoon resort run by a handsome Mexican named Luis Moreno. Luis had great plans and is working hard to create a New Mazatlan in this spot. He is planting vineyards and trees and building cabanas on the beach. For the surf fisherman and the shell collector, here is a paradise. Unless the tide is low, however, don't spend too much time at the waters' edge looking for shells; instead, climb up to the bluffs where storms have dumped thousands of shells of all varieties. In the lagoon there are three varieties of sand dollars, one round as a ball, and at least five kinds of welks, shells which resemble a conch and have yellow screws six inches long. There are also giant yellow clams and a beautiful shell Luis calls an *Oliva*, which resembles a cowry and ranges in size from one to three inches and in color from olive to yellow, brown and white.

Leaving Luis and his beautiful lagoon, you may then back-track to the "highway" and continue south toward the village of Puertocitos, about 51 miles below San Felipe. Here you are in for a pleasant surprise. The name of the fishing village means "little cove," which is exactly what it is. Built on a hill surrounding the cove, the village could have been lifted from an Italian coastal scene, except for the native Mexican structures. There is a combination store-cantina and one gasoline pump. The big surprise here is the jade green hot sulphur pools found at the end of the cove's point. Ranging from hot to

too hot in temperature, you are permitted to bathe in them when the tide is out and they are exposed. When the tide returns, it cleans them out for the next bathers! Immediately north of the village are two coves on the beach where you may camp, fish from the shore, or hunt for shells.

Unless you are strong-willed, we don't

recommend a weekend jaunt to Puertocitos. There is something about that road winding along the blue, blue sea and the waves splashing against rocks that rise from its surface that will haunt you day and night . . . until you finally give in to yourself and say, "Ok, let's skip work and stay another day!" □



Johnnie, Nevada

BY LAMBERT FLORIN



Above: Part of buildings clustered around Johnny Mine. Most were erected when "Happy Hunch" uncovered the dazzling vein in 1908. Two of the structures at the upper end were made habitable as a cook-house and a bunk house during the final burst of activity in the early 1940s.

Below: Old Johnnie Town is near extinction. Remains stand beside Nevada State Highway 16, north of Pahrump. When at its height in 1907 with a population of 300, the town had one hotel, two stores and three saloons. Daily mail service came from Amargosa on the Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad.



AT LEAST ten rich mines in an area east and north of Death Valley have been identified as the "Lost Breyfogle." Of these, the Johnnie would seem to fit best the original Breyfogle discovery. The road up to it is rough, but passable as far as the large Labbe Mine owned by old time Nevada miner Charles Labbe, who for years has been a student of the Breyfogle story. He claims that the following version is about right.

Around 1861, Jacob (or Louis Jacob, C. C. Jacob, or Byron W.) Breyfogle brought a fantastically rich chunk of ore into Austin, Nevada, then a thriving mining center. He was barely alive, desiccated and near starvation, but was able to say that he had found the sample somewhere in or near the eastern edge of Death Valley. In the succeeding years the prospector led many searches for the spot, all futile.

In 1865 a party was following the old Spanish Trail from California to Salt Lake. At a camping ground called Stump Springs, not far from where Johnnie would later be established, they came upon Breyfogle, who had barely survived an attack by Indians. They carried him to Salt Lake City where he was nursed by one Pony Duncan. Though badly beaten, Breyfogle regained a measure of health and was able to continue his search with Duncan as partner. The pair had hardly made a good beginning when Breyfogle died, first confiding all he knew of his lost mine to Duncan. Later Duncan met the Montgomery brothers who were beginning a search for the lost mine and transferred his information to them.

Charles Labbe says it was in 1890 that George and Robert Montgomery were camped at Indian Spring, there meeting Indian Johnnie who served as their guide. The Paiute took them almost immediately to some exposed veins that gleamed with gold on the surface. At first all were greatly excited, the Montgomerys cooling when they found that the gold in sight was all there was, and wouldn't justify the hauling of equipment and supplies to the remote location. It was then that Indian Johnnie said something like, "Well, all right, I will take you to a place

about four miles from here where there is even more gold." And he did. After an hour's traveling, the men stood before what Mr. Labbe says "was either the lost Breyfogle Mine or at least the nearest of many versions of it."

Robert Montgomery later reported that the gold was scattered over a decomposed quartz surface "like plums in a pudding." It was this that inspired the mine's name, *Chispas*, a Spanish term literally translated as "sparks" or "diamonds," but locally meaning nuggets. Different owners later changed the name to Congress. A town grew up near the mine, appropriately named Johnnie for the native who had led the Montgomery brothers to the place. (The brothers themselves never mentioned their guide.)

The Chispas, or Congress, had produced \$250,000 by 1899, when the vein pinched out. In the meantime, the Montgomerys had located another—this one a mile or less up the steep hill above Johnnie. Here lay the real bonanza, far richer than the original strike, and, as it turned out, more lasting. It was also named Johnnie and produced on and off until the 1940s.

After treating a hundred tons of ore at the new mine, it was evident more equipment would be needed. A ten-stamp mill was erected as soon as materials could be hauled in. Its boilers were fired with yucca stems at first, which provided intense, but fleeting heat. During its early months, all supplies were hauled over desert roads 140 miles from Daggett. Later a railroad came to Barnwell, only 100 miles to the southeast, and a stage line started from there.

Historian Harvey Hardy writes that sometime around 1900 the Johnnie Mining Claim was leased by a company with headquarters in Salt Lake City, the officials mostly Mormons. When their lease ran out, the Montgomery manager, whose name Hardy remembers as McArthur, refused an extension. Jerry Langford, manager for the Salt Lake outfit, determined to retain the mine against all comers, including legal owners. While armed guards protected them, the Langford's miners continued to take out rich ore. One night an "army," assembled by McArthur, grouped on the hill directly above the mine. Among members were famed gunfighters Phil Foote and Jack Longstreet. In the early morning light, before guards had been stationed, McArthur's forces opened fire on the miners going to work. The Salt Lake contingent was routed, scattering in all directions as long as they went downhill!

Immediately the legal owners moved in and began to again operate the mine. After several days without incident, McArthur's men relaxed vigilance and no longer posted guards. This was the signal for the enemy to take over the same hill from which they had been attacked.

Next morning the shooting started, but now the situation was reversed, McArthur's men ran to the hoist house to escape a hail of bullets. After suffering several casualties they were ready to give up, but were unable to find anything to serve as a flag of surrender. It happened that the squaw of Jack Longstreet was among those beleaguered. She offered her white petticoat. As a banner tied to a rifle barrel, the skirt put an end to the hostilities.

Most seriously wounded among McArthur's men was Phil Foote, who was suffering much pain. A man was sent down to Johnnie Town to get some morphine. After a record trip, he returned with storekeeper Sam Yount, who administered the drug to Foote. The suffering man then went to sleep, "permanently," as Hardy recalls.

According to this account, the Mormons continued to operate the Johnnie Mine at a profit for some years, then ran into financial difficulties. Miners weren't paid regularly and soon threatened to quit. With bills for other services and supplies mounting, the officials sent to headquarters for help.

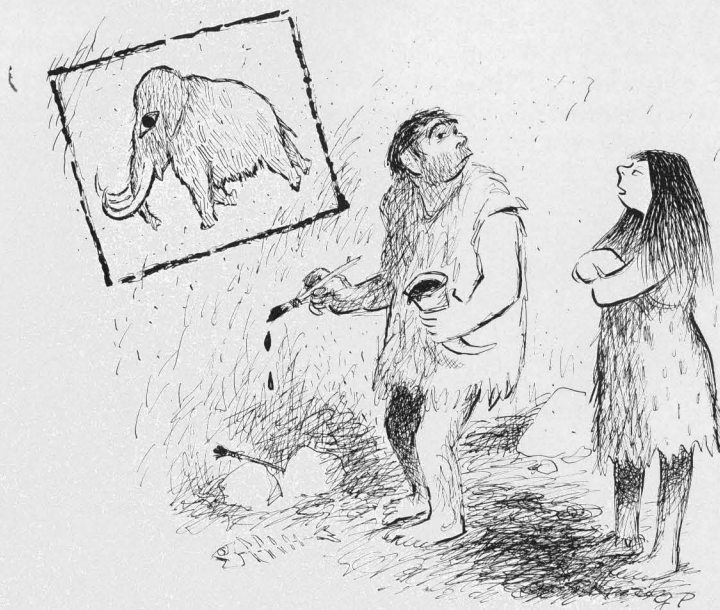
Dispatched to Johnnie from Salt Lake was a man named Gillespie, who arrived with a sum of money to settle outstanding debts. The story goes that the sum

was totally inadequate and in the ensuing altercation as to whom should get the money, Gillespie was killed by a blast from a shotgun. The town blacksmith was accused and taken to Belmont in Nye County for trial, but released for lack of evidence.

Charles Labbe's account of the trouble is terse. "The leasers wanted to jump the claim for themselves and all hell broke loose. Two men, Phil Foote and one named Gillespie, were killed, the mill burned down and the office blown up. I picked up the safe, minus the door, 200 feet away." His recollection is that the dead were buried at Pahrump and that no trial was ever held.

In 1905 a Los Angeles concern took over the Johnnie Mine and production continued moderately until 1908. Then "Happy Hunch," whose real name was Ed Overfield and who hailed from Goldfield, led an exploratory drilling operation nearby that uncovered a vein three feet wide which assayed \$30,000 in gold to the ton. Reporters were sent from Salt Lake's *Mining Review*. They looked and hurried back to spread the sensational news. Labbe says he himself saw one chunk of ore from which \$20 gold pieces could be cut. Unfortunately, the lead soon ran into Johnnie Mine ground and operations ceased.

The Johnnie ran along on an extension of a "pocket zone" until 1940, when the owner died. A year or so later there was further activity under another Los Angeles promoter, but when drilling produced no substantial leads, quiet again settled down on the old camp. (See *Tales The Western Tombstones Tell*.) □



"You expect me to live with that? It's crooked."

BACK COUNTRY TRAVEL

FOUR WHEEL CHATTER . . . by Bill Bryan

Desert Magazine's first Award for Conservation and Preservation will be presented to the Los Paisanos Four Wheel Drive Club, Inc., of Pomona, California for their work in cleaning up a section of the Santa Rosa Mountains. See story on this page.

Each month Desert Magazine will present a Certificate of Award to a group or individual for activities in the field of conservation and preservation. If you know of anyone or group who has completed a project in these fields please let us know by writing to Desert Magazine Awards, Palm Desert, California 92260. It is time the "good guys" are shown for what they are; all we read about are the "bad guys."

A note from Lloyd Sage, of Eagle Mountain, Calif says I must have missed a good road through the Big Maria Mountains in a trip I mentioned in the December issue. I think we were on the road he mentioned except it was washed out at that time. I dropped my Jeepster off some five foot washes. We would have been more daring if we hadn't been alone.

Herb Halling, of the Desert Foxes Jeep Club, writes to tell us a way to boost up our springs which we appreciate. My advice to purchasers of new vehicles is to insist on the dealer installing heavy duty springs. And if you are going to run big tires, such as Dick Cepek's 11 x 15 Armstrongs on 10 inch wide wheels call Brian Chuchua's Four Wheel Drive Center in Fullerton for a set of wheel well cutouts. This way you won't tear up the big tires.

The Sareea Al Jamel Four Wheel Drive Club of Indio, California, led by President Doyle Latimer and Dick Meyers, an officer of the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs, Inc., took James Whitehead, ranger in charge of District Six of the California Division of Beaches and Parks, and his wife, Peg, and their son, Mike, on a 4-wheel drive and dune buggy trip of the Imperial Sand Hills this past month. During the two-day trip Jim was briefed on our views relative to the proposed State development of the area. I am certain he was impressed, just as we were with the

Continued on page 41

Four Wheelers Clean Area

In observance of the recent conservation weekend sponsored by the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs, six member families of the Pomona based Los Paisanos Four Wheel Drive Club, Inc., spent their weekend atop Santa Rosa Peak cleaning up the debris and trash left by litterbugs and vandals.

Approximately 140 man-hours of work netted 20 cubic yards of debris all of which was hauled down the mountain in a truck to the Riverside County dump.

For their work the Pomona club will be awarded Desert Magazine's monthly Conservation and Preservation Award Certificate.

Santa Rosa Peak is an excellent summertime picnic area. A cabin and tree house built in the 1930s by conservationist S. A. "Steve" Ragsdale, still stand. See Desert Magazine, August 1964 issue. It can be reached from Highway 74 near Palm Desert, California.



Cleaning up the area.



After the cleanup.

NEW IDEAS by V. LEE OERTLE

New ideas about travel, motor-ing, desert camping and general desert living are welcome. So if you have a new and useful idea—something that hasn't been published before—please send it on to: Desert Product Report, Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. 92260.

POCKET MATCH THAT NEVER BURNS OUT

They call this amazing little tool the Metal Match. It looks like a metal cigarette, and it's about the same size. Since it's small enough to tote in your pocket, it looks like a good emergency tool for the desert traveler. To start a fire, just do this: (a) Gather dry tinder into a small pile. (b) Use your pocket knife to peel off a few particles from Metal Match, letting them fall onto the pile of tinder. (c) Now scrape Metal Match rapidly until sparks fly. The particles scraped off burn immediately. Simple. The maker says that the Metal Match is safe to carry in your pocket, and that it won't stain or rub off on clothing. Many stores will carry it. One company that handles it is Perma-Pak, 40 East 2430 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84115.

SIX DAY SURVIVAL KIT FOR CAR OR CAMPER

Survival kits are not new, but they're still as important today as they were in the days when plains Indians carried a pocketful of parched corn and jerky. Perhaps more important. The average city dweller would quickly panic if his car broke down in some remote Utah canyon. When I ran across this six-day survival kit it struck me as a practical, handy, reasonably priced package that surely belongs in every travelers trunk. For only \$6.95 the buyer gets enough food and water to last him six full days, including such extra items as vitamins, tissues, heat tabs, nylon rope, matches, signal whistle, and other items you'd never remember to carry. From Perma-Pak, 40 East 2430 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115.

AIR CONDITIONER FOR CAMPER COACH?

Anyone who has driven a pickup with a camper coach aboard knows that a cab cooler just won't handle all that extra coach-load in back. There is neither the cooling capacity nor the necessary ducting. A letter from reader Dan (Dowser Dan) George from Ontario, Calif., described how one family beat the heat. The family owned an all-wheel-drive pickup truck, with a big camper coach on it. Because they liked to travel the deserts year-round, they decided that they must cool the coach to withstand high temperatures. But how to supply power? Here is how that problem was solved.

(1) An ordinary home-type refrigerated cooler was placed on the roof of the coach.

(2) Wind baffles were installed at strategic locations to avoid interference or loss of efficiency.

(3) The electric air conditioner was powered by a 110-volt generator, mounted under the hood of the truck. The generator had its own engine, and it could be started via remote control from inside the truck cab.

Authors' note: The M. J. Ralph Light Plant company specializes in this type of installation. A 2200-watt generator is mounted under the hood of the truck, complete with engine and electric-starting mechanism. Price of installation is near \$50, including the generator. For data, contact M. J. Ralph, 636 Broadway, Chula Vista, Calif.

NEAT TRICK TO PENETRATE FOG

Have you ever encountered a sudden fog late at night, driving into it without warning? At high speeds it can be dangerous because headlights are diffused by moisture in the air. Instead of penetrating beams, the lights mush out and up, reflecting back into your eyes. Here's a quick, easy way to cut diffusion and concentrate the light on the pavement. Carry a roll of black masking tape. At the first hint of

fog (or blowing sand) pull the car off the roadway. Get out your tape and lay on strips of it horizontally across the top half of the headlamps. Then you can proceed. The system directs more light onto the street, less into the fog or sand at eye level. After passing through the trouble spot, stop and peel off the tape. It comes off easily.

ADVENTURE MAP OF BAJA CALIFORNIA

One of the best wall maps of Baja California I've seen in a long time is now available. The new map is a jumbo 34" x 58", printed in four colors, with tremendous detail work supplied by Mike McMahan who has spent 25 years collecting this invaluable data. All roads, resorts, air strips, ports, and landings are accurately pin-pointed. So if you are serious about making that dreamed-of Baja California trip, this new detailed map will be a bargain at \$7.50; for another \$2.00 you can order it plastic-finished for protection against moisture. It's obtainable from McMahan Desk Co., 3131 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90007.

WATER SUPPLY CARRIED IN FRONT BUMPER

How many times have you been forced to leave a beautiful desert campsite because your water supply ran out? It's a common problem. One way to haul an extra water supply without robbing interior coach or car space is with a new water-holding truck bumper. Made of 12 gauge steel, this rectangular hollow bumper holds about 20 gallons of water. Internal baffles control sloshing. There is a drain at one end and a convenient filler cap. It replaces standard front bumper on a pickup. There are several interesting advantages here. First, all that weight of water up front will help balance a tail-heavy coach load. Second, 20 gallons of extra water doubles the usual coach tank supply. Third, no interior space is taken up by extra water cans. This \$99.50 water bumper is made by MacDonald Camper Kit Co., 11015 Rush Street, So. El Monte, Calif.

Trading Post CLASSIFIEDS

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

OUT-OF-PRINT books at lowest prices! You name it—we find it! Western Americana, desert and Indian books a specialty. Send us your wants. No obligation. International Bookfinders, Box 3003-D, Beverly Hills, Calif.

"OVERLOOKED FORTUNES" in minerals and gem stones; here are a few of the 300 or more you may be overlooking: uranium, vanadium, tin, tungsten, columbium, tantalum, nickel, cobalt, gold, silver, platinum, iridium, beryllium, emeralds, etc. Some worth \$1 to \$2 a pound, others \$25 to \$200 per ounce; an emerald the size of your thumb may be worth \$1000 or more; learn how to find, identify and cash in on them. New simple system. Send for free copy "Overlooked Fortunes in Minerals," it may lead to knowledge which may make you rich! Duke's Research Laboratory, Box 666-B, Truth or Consequences New Mexico 87901.

"A GUIDE FOR Insulator Collectors" (with prices). 127 pages, 168 insulators described, sketched and priced, 4 group photographs, copies of 10 patents, copies from old catalogs—and more. An exciting new collecting field, start now and don't be sorry later. By J. C. Tibbitts, order from me at "The Little Glass Shack," 3161 56th Str., Apt. B., Sacramento, Calif. 95820. \$3.00 (plus 5% tax for Californians) plus 25c for mail orders.

LOST DESERT GOLD, legendary and geological history of the southern California desert, with photos and maps to pinpoint locations. \$2.50 postpaid. Gedco Publishing Co., Box 67, Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

NEVADA TREASURE Hunters Ghost Town Guide. Large folded map. 800 place name glossary. Railroads, towns, camps, camel trail. \$1.50. Theron Fox, 1296-C Yosemite, San Jose 26, California.

ARIZONA TREASURE Hunters Ghost Town Guide. Large folded map 1881, small early map, 1200 place name glossary, mines, camps, Indian reservations, etc. \$1.50. Theron Fox, 1296-E Yosemite, San Jose, California.

SURVIVAL BOOKS! Guerrilla Warfare, Wilderness Living, Medical, Guns, Self Defense, Nature. Books—Vital, Fascinating, Extraordinary; Catalog free. Adobe Hacienda, Route 3, Box 517A, Glendale, Arizona 85301.

GUIDE TO MEXICO'S gems and minerals: localities, mines, maps, directions, contacts. English-Spanish glossary, too. \$2.00 postpaid. Gemac, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

BOOK FINDING is our business. Service is our product. No charge for search. Satisfaction guaranteed. D-J Book Search, Box 3352, San Bernardino, Calif. 92404.

"ASSAULT ON BAJA," E. Washburn, 3934 Cortland, Lynwood, Calif. \$2.00 tax included, "zest of discovery" writes Belden; "wide-eyed experience" says Powell USC.

FREE 128 page catalog on detectors, books and maps. General Electronic Detection Co., 16238 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

"THE OLD BOTTLE EXCHANGE,"—Bottle collectors own monthly publication. Subscribe today, \$4 year, receive free 50 word ad credit. Sample 25c. OBX, Box 243, Bend, Oregon 97701.

HOW TO GET success, wealth, happiness, health. How to solve personal problems. Send for free list of low cost books. Joseph Kavanaugh, P. O. Box 3776, Anaheim, Calif. 92803.

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

BOTTLE COLLECTORS, treasure hunters, prospectors and explorers—this is the book for you! "California Nevada Ghost Town Atlas". Modern highway maps that lead to the fabulous camps of yesterday. Complete with photos and historical background for 400 sites. Price \$2.00 postpaid. Cy Johnson, Box 288, Susanville, Calif. 96130.

"GEMS & MINERALS," the monthly guide to gems, minerals, and rock hobby fun. \$4.50 year. Sample 25c. Gems & Minerals, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

COMPLETELY NEW—Excitingly different! "101 Ghost Town Relics"—Beautiful color cover, lists over 140 relics, over 100 relic photos. Article on restoring, utilization of relics. A price guide included. \$3 ppd. Wes Bressie, Rt. 1, Box 582, Eagle Point, Oregon 97524.

NEW! VOLUME II—"Guide to Old Bottles, Contents and Prices." Follow-up to Vol. 1. Also "Handbook for the Bottle-ologist." Each book \$2.75. Richard Fike, 1135 Maxfield Drive, Ogden, Utah 84404.

FRANK FISH—Treasure Hunter—said Gold is where you find it. His book "Buried Treasure & Lost Mines" tells how and where to look, 93 locations, photos and maps. 19x24 colored map pinpointing book locations. Book \$1.50. Map \$1.50. Special: both \$2.50 postpaid. Publisher, Eric Schaefer, 14728 Peyton Drive, Chino, Calif. 91710.

FREE TRAVEL NEWSLETTER: GO—the adventure newsletter tells the unusual, unique, exciting, out-of-the-way places for vacation travel throughout the world. Introductory offer—only \$3.50 a year. We'll send your first exciting issue free. Write GO, Box 571, Barrington, Illinois 60010.

DESERT MAGAZINES—30 years from November 1937, excellent condition. Best offer over \$150. L. Pask, P. O. Box 1122, Brawley, Calif. 92227.

• GEMS

ATTENTION ROCKHOUNDS! Come and browse. Supplies, minerals, slabs, rough rock, equipment, black lights, books. Shamrock Rock Shop, 593 West La Cadena Drive, Riverside, Calif. Phone 686-3956.

CHOICE MINERAL specimens, gems, cutting material, machinery, lapidary and jewelers supplies, mountings, fluorescent lamps, books. Sumner's, 21108 Devonshire, Chatsworth, Cal.

POCKET GOLD, \$2. Placer gold, \$2. Gold dust, \$1. Attractively displayed. Postpaid. Money-back guarantee. Lester Lea, Box 1125D, Mt. Shasta, California 96067.

• HOME STUDY

LEARN OIL painting by mail. Also casein or acrylic. Amateur, advanced. Easy, fascinating, naturalistic. Easy payments. Art, Box 486, Montrose, Colorado.

• INDIAN GOODS

FINE RESERVATION-MADE Navajo, Zuni, Hopi jewelry. Large selection of old pawn and Kachina dolls. Fine old baskets. Navajo rugs, Yei blankets, Chimayo blankets and vests, pottery, Kaibab moccasins. A collector's paradise! Open daily 10 to 5:30, closed Mondays. Buffalo Trading Post, Highway 18, Apple Valley, Calif.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD

★ Mail your copy and first-insertion remittance to: Trading Post, Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, California 92260. Classified rates are 25c per word, \$5 minimum per insertion.

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS IS 10TH OF SECOND MONTH PRECEDING COVER DATE.

• INDIAN GOODS

AUTHENTIC INDIAN jewelry, Navajo rugs, Chimayo blankets, squaw boots. Collector's items. Closed Tuesdays. Pow-Wow Indian Trading Post, 19967 Ventura Blvd., East Woodland Hills, Calif. Open Sundays.

• MAPS

MAPS: PIONEER-HISTORICAL. Mississippi River to Pacific Ocean. West-Southwest 30"x50". West-Northwest 21"x50"—\$2 each folded, \$3 each tubed. They show old forts, fur posts, towns, railroads, cattle trails, stage and telegraph lines, Indian areas, "Trails of Tears," emigrant routes. Most everything "dated." Maps, Box 56N, Tijeras, New Mexico 87059.

SECTIONIZED COUNTY maps — San Bernardino \$3; Riverside \$1; Imperial, small \$1, large \$2; San Diego \$1.25; Inyo \$2.50; Kern \$1.25, other California counties \$1.25 each. Nevada counties \$1 each. Include 5 percent sales tax. Topographic maps of all mapped western areas. Westwide Maps Co., 114 West Third Street, Los Angeles 13, California.

• MINING

PAN YOUR OWN GOLD! Black sand concentrates. Assays over \$2000. Gold/Ton. One pound \$2. 10 pounds \$17.95 postpaid. Also, beautiful silver/lead ore, collectors item, sparkling picture rock, loaded with silver 50c pound, 10 pounds \$4.50. RHB, Box 431, Midway City, Calif. 92655.

UTAH ASSAYING CO., gold, lead, silver, copper, mercury, \$1.50 each; platinum \$3 each. Spectographs \$5 each. 172 North 9 west, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

ASSAYS. COMPLETE, accurate, guaranteed. Highest quality spectrographic. Only \$5.00 per sample. Reed Engineering, 620-R So. Inglewood Ave., Inglewood, California.

METAL AND MINERAL Markets: 2500 buyers for 130 metals, nonmetallics, ores and gemstones, \$2.00. D.V.D. Publishers, Box 16125, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

• OLD COINS, STAMPS

RARE SILVER dollars. 1878 CC Uncirculated, \$10.00. 1883-84-85-98-99-1900-01-02-04 A1 New Orleans Mint, \$3.50 each. 1878-79-80-81-82 S Mint, \$3.50 each. Price list 50c. Shultz, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110.

• PHOTO SUPPLIES

CUSTOM FILM finishing by mail since 1932. Morgan Camera Shop "The complete photographic store," 6262 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, California 90028.

PHOTO LOG. Record date, subject, and location as you take your snapshots or slides. Send 30c. Verdon, P. O. Box 118, Tempe, Arizona 85281.

• PLANTS, SEEDS

OLD FASHION LARGE Gourd Seeds, mixed types, certified. Ornamental, useful for birdhouses, centerpieces, Christmas decorations, conversation pieces. 40 seeds \$1.00. Certified Seeds, 5915 Shoshone Avenue, Encino, Calif. 91316.

• PLANTS, SEED

EL RANCHO Galapagos Cactus Growers. You are invited to visit our greenhouses and cactus gardens on the east slope of Copper Mountain. Star Route 1, Box 710, Twentynine Palms, California. Phone 362-4329.

• REAL ESTATE

400,000,000 ACRES government public land in 25 states. Some low as \$1.00 acre. 1968 report. Details \$1.00. Land Information, 422DM Washington Building, Washington, D.C.

FOR INFORMATION on acreage, home or lot in or near this desert area, please write or visit Ralph W. Fisher, Realtor, 73644 29-Palms Highway, Twentynine Palms, Calif. 92277.

TWENTY ACRES between Palm Springs and Salton Sea, sacrifice \$3950; \$100 down, \$39 per month. Also, 20 acres on Highway 58 at Barstow—\$9500; \$500 down, \$95 per month. Owner, Box 304, Hesperia, Calif. 92345. Telephone (714) 244-9450.

TWENTY ACRES—all or part, Hinkley area. Excellent home base for exploring high desert. Opal Mountain nearby. Good water conditions, good roads. \$150.00 per acre. Miller, 8735 Olney St., Rosemead, Calif. 91770. 213-288-2238.

• TREASURE FINDERS

FIND BURIED TREASURE with new revolutionary analytical metal detector. Features push button tuning, automatic tuning, loudspeaker, negligible ground pickup, greatest range. Free catalog. Gardiner Electronics, Dept. 51, 4729 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, Ariz. 85013.

TREASURE-METAL and mineral locators. Free 24 page booklet. GeoFinder Co., Box 37, Lakewood, Calif. 90714.

TREASURE, COIN and relic hunters news publication. Only \$1 yearly. Sample copy 25c. Gold Bug, Box 588-D, Alamo, Calif. 94507.

GOLDAK TREASURE Locators—new for '68! A hobby you'll enjoy for fun and profit. Find coins, gold, silver. Goldak Dept. DMC, 1544 W. Glenoaks, Glendale, Calif. 91201.

• TREASURE FINDERS

DISCOVERIES UNLIMITED with scientific M-Scope. Gold, silver, coins, relics, etc. Guaranteed. Terms. Free, illustrated Discovery Booklet. Fisher Research, Dept. D-7, Palo Alto, Calif. 94302.

POWERFUL METROTECH locators detect gold, silver, coins, relics. Moneyback guarantee. Terms free information. Underground Explorations, Dept. 3A, Box 793, Menlo Park, Calif. 94025.

FREE 128 page catalog on detectors, books and maps. General Electronic Detection Co., 16238 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

• WESTERN GOODS

GHOST TOWN items: Sun-colored glass, amethyst to royal purple; ghost railroads materials, tickets; limited odd items from camps of the '60s. Write your interest—Box 64-D, Smith, Nevada.

• MISCELLANEOUS

FOUR "WILL" Forms and valuable "Guide to Wills." Written by Attorney Cyrus Davis. Complete, \$1.00. National Forms, Box 48313-DS, Los Angeles, Calif. 90048.

FREIGHTER TRAVELERS and those who would like to be are invited to join us. Dues \$5 year include subscription to Freighter Travel News, a monthly publication written by & for freighter travelers. Send 10c coin or stamps for sample copy. Freighter Travel Club of America, P. O. Box 504, Newport, Oregon 97365.

WOULD LIKE to contact gentleman with late model Gardner metal detector with 36" loop. A. D. Ruff, 4142 Rolando Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92115.

WANTED: TOP prices paid for McKinley to Wilkie presidential campaign buttons. Howard Lane, 9952 66th Road, Far Hills, N.Y. 11374-B.

CACTUS CANDY—the tasty treat of the desert. \$1.25 for 1/2-pound box prepaid. Cactus Candy Co., Dept. D-28, 1464 East Van Buren, Phoenix, Ariz. 85006.

COLONISTS WANTED. Adventurous spirit, all ages. U.S.A. and Latin America. Application and booklet, "International Community Concepts" \$1.00. The Questers, P. O. Box N-7, Los Banos, Calif. 93635.

Chatter

Continued from page 38

information he gave us. All of the Whitehead family proved to be good troupers.

We have spent quite a bit of time in the Anza-Borrego State Park area recently. We had the pleasure of meeting Ranger Fred Meyer at Seventeen Palms and for two hours discussed the pros and cons of camping within the boundaries of the Park. He told us his problems with people littering, leaving fires and tearing up scenic hills with motorcycles and vehicles. While in the Park boundaries be certain to stay on designated roads and washes and if building a charcoal fire it must be in a metal container with all ashes carried away afterward. Cutting of wood is strictly against the law. Overnight camping should be within designated areas.

Have you seen the Idiots Billboard? I'm talking about the Travertine Rock area by the Salton Sea on Highway 86. The defacing of the rocks and the trash thrown there is disgraceful. If you are looking for a list of stupid people you can find their names written on the rocks. Jens Harboe, who represents the owners of the property, says that if the vandalism continues they will close the area to the public. Vandals even tore down their sign asking people not to damage the area. We recently saw a group of Boy Scouts cleaning up the area. They are better men than those who litter.

A reminder that Desert Magazine has a standing offer of a \$100.00 reward to anyone who aids in the arrest and conviction of anyone violating the United States Antiquities Act and \$25.00 for state anti-litter and anti-destruction laws. See editorial in the April 1967 issue.

The National Four Wheel Drive Grand Prix will be held in April, 1968. See Calendar of Western Events.

The unofficial news is that Jeep has bought the General Motors tooling for the V-6 engine and that Jeep will soon be equipped with the Buick V-8 in the trucks and wagons.

Do you know Linn Rickard from West Covina? He's the chap who has received so many awards for helping out so many people. His wife, Bobbie Jo, ran into a wall with his new 4-wheel by the Salton Sea and broke her ankle and jaw. So remember, fellows, don't teach your wife to drive a 4-wheel; it's just too complicated for the female sex.

Desert

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA 92260

☐ ENTER A NEW SUBSCRIPTION

☐ RENEW MY PRESENT SUBSCRIPTION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP CODE _____

☐ SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Sign Gift Card: "From _____"

One Year \$5.00

Two Years \$9.50

Three Years \$13.00

(Or 2 One Years)

(Or Three One Years)

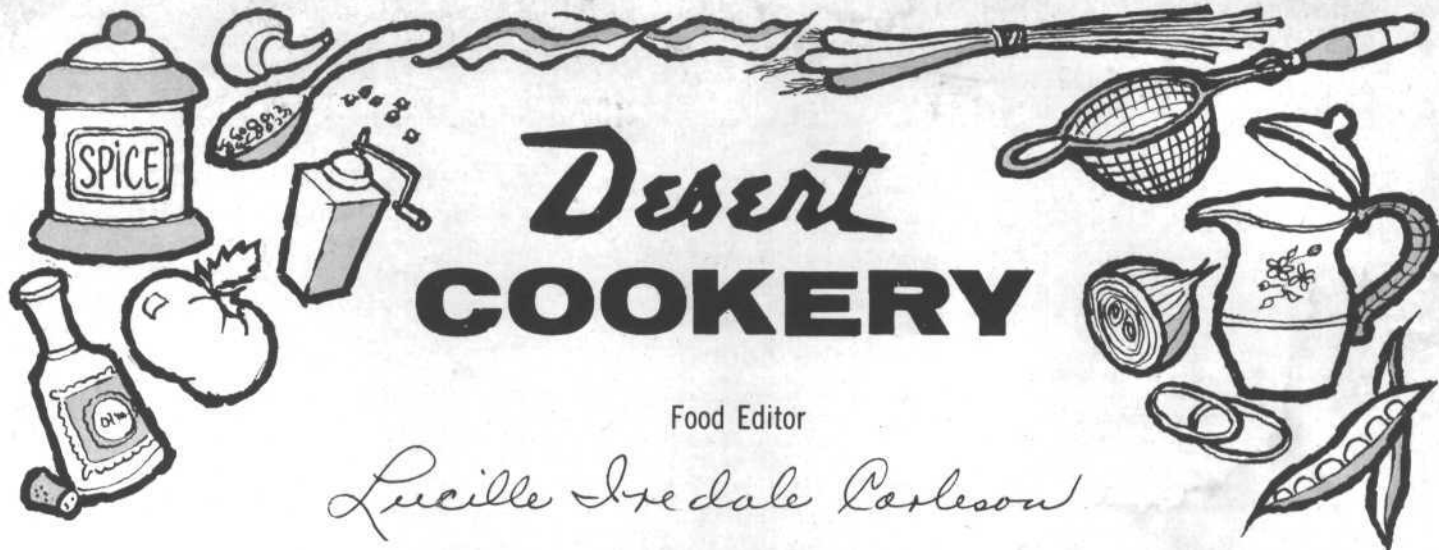
☐ PAYMENT ENCLOSED

☐ BILL ME LATER

☐ ALSO SEND DESERT'S 12-ISSUE HANDSOME BROWN VINYL BINDER FOR \$3.50

(includes tax and postage)

Date Binder(s) with Year(s) _____ ☐ Undated



SHRIMP SPREAD

- 1 lb. small shrimp
 - $\frac{1}{4}$ cup soft butter
 - dash of nutmeg
 - dash of cayenne
 - 3 tablespoons chopped onions, cooked in butter until soft, but not browned
 - 3 oz. brandy or cognac
- Mix all together and mold on plate. Decorate with capers. Serve with crackers or thin sliced rye bread.

OCEAN PERCH AU GRATIN

- 1 package ocean perch frozen filets
- 1 small onion, chopped and 1 tablespoon chopped green pepper
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups chopped celery
- 1 small can mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 can mushroom soup or cream of chicken soup or cheddar cheese soup
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon each, salt, paprika and nutmeg

Poach fish in gently boiling water for 5 minutes, drain. In buttered baking dish, place fish filets, sprinkle with lemon juice. Saute onion, pepper and celery in butter until onion becomes tender. Add mushrooms and spread over fish. Pour soup over this; if you are not using cheese soup, sprinkle some Parmesan cheese over top. Bake at 350 degrees for about 20 minutes. 4 to 6 servings.

BAKED TOMATOES WITH CHEESE SAUCE

- 6 firm tomatoes
- salt and pepper
- 2 tablespoons margarine
- 1 clove garlic (or garlic salt to taste)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fine bread crumbs

cheese sauce
Cut slice from stem of tomatoes, and remove core. Arrange tomatoes, cut side up in greased baking dish. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Cover with cheese sauce. Melt margarine in small sauce pan, add garlic and cook over low heat for 3 minutes. Toss with bread crumbs after discarding garlic. Spread mixture and heap over tomatoes and sauce. Bake in 375 degree oven for 20 minutes. Serves six.

You may use commercial cheese sauce or make it as follows:

- 3 tablespoons margarine
- $4\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons corn starch
- $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups milk
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup finely shredded cheese

Melt margarine in sauce pan; blend in cornstarch and salt. Gradually stir in milk, stirring constantly until it thickens. Add cheese and stir until cheese is melted.

CRAB CASSEROLE

- 1 can frozen shrimp soup
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup grated Cheddar cheese
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise
- 2 cups raw noodles
- 1 can crab

Thaw frozen soup. Mix all ingredients together and place in buttered casserole. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Remove from oven and cover with french-fried onion rings and bake for 10 minutes longer. Serves 4 to 6.

CRAB-MACARONI SALAD

- 1 can Cheddar cheese soup
- 1 cup coarsely shredded Cheddar cheese
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup milk
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt and pepper to taste and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon paprika
- 1 7 oz. package macaroni, cooked and drained
- 1 6 oz. package frozen crab meat or 1 can; if frozen, defrost, drain and flake; if canned, flake
- 2 tablespoons butter melted
- 1 can crushed corn flakes

Combine soup, cheese, milk, mustard, salt, pepper and paprika in sauce pan, and heat. Mix with the macaroni and crab meat and pour into $1\frac{1}{2}$ quart shallow casserole. Mix corn flakes with the melted butter and sprinkle over top. Bake at 350 degrees about 20 minutes, or until bubbly.

Letters and Answers

Letters requesting answers must include stamped self-addressed envelope.

Peralta versus Pegleg . . .

To The Man Who Found Pegleg's Black Gold:

While doing research for THE MYSTERIOUS WEST I came upon a statement made to his lawyer by James Addison Reavis, the fraudulent "Baron of Arizona," which ties in with the possibility of Peralta gold finding its way to the desert.

Reavis stated that in San Francisco he met an Irish woman married to a Mexican frontiersman who had kept a water station between Yuma and San Diego or San Bernardino in the 1800s. During her stay on the desert she recalled that the owner of the great hacienda of Peralta had often stopped at her station in traveling back and forth. Reavis used this information in his trial to discredit claims of the Miguel Peralta family of Arizona because the woman he quoted stated that Miguel Peralta was totally unrelated to the rightful grantees of the famous Peralta land grant. In spite of the fact that Reavis pulled off one of the greatest frauds in American history, we can't knock the research he accomplished to back up his claims. This statement could very well be true. If so, it establishes the great Peralta mining family in the Colorado desert area prior to the arrival of the famed Pegleg, who first found the black gold.

CHORAL PEPPER,
Palm Desert, California.

Not too far gone—yet! . . .

In the November, 1967 Letters, a statement in one from Bill Bean was interesting. The letter was addressed to The Man Who Found Pegleg's Black Gold and stated that the writer, Bill Bean, had found some water-worn rocks a little over a mile from where the new Mr. Pegleg found his black nuggets. Now, this location has not been revealed in any of the DESERT articles. I thought I would write and let you know that some of us are not too far gone. This is written with good spirits.

WILLIAM M. DEANE,
Boulder City, Nevada.

Editor's comment: I questioned Bill Bean's statement, too, but decided to let it stand and see what happened. Yours was the only comment! Maybe Bill Bean will write again and explain just how he knew he was within a mile of the hot spot. C.P.

Mystery Solved . . .

I read with interest "The Rock House Mystery in Anza-Borrego" in the January issue. In the book *Old Time Cattlemen and Other Pioneers of the Anza-Borrego Area*, author Lester Reed, son of pioneer ranchers and himself a part of the desert's living legend, speaks of his friend Calisto Torte who was one of the last Indians who lived in Rockhouse Valley. Calisto was born at Hidden Spring and his father, Manuel, was chief of the Rockhouse Valley Indians. Portions of the Torte home are still to be seen along with three other rock houses, one of them the home of the Andreas family.

Lester points out that during the 1870s through the 1890s Rockhouse Valley was a place where the white man was not very welcome. The Indians resented intruders in their homeland. I heartily recommend Lester Reed's book to anyone who is interested in a knowledgeable account of the Anza-Borrego Desert.

GEORGE LEETCH,
Borrego Springs, California.

Still Kicking . . .

In your November issue of Desert Magazine I read an article on the town of Darwin, California, by Lambert Florin. He states that other than a small amount of mining in the outlying areas, Darwin is dead as far as mining goes. I don't know when this article was written but since February 1967, West Hill Exploration from Toronto, Canada along with Brownstone Mining Inc., of Lone Pine, California have been engaged in fairly extensive mining and milling operations. We have approximately 60 men employed and are mining and milling 250 tons of lead, zinc and silver per day. This work is being done only one half mile from the town of Darwin on the property owned by the Anaconda Company. West Hill obtained a lease from Anaconda last year at about this time and operations began in February 1967.

I hope you will pass this information on so readers will know that Darwin isn't dead yet.

PAUL M. SKINNER,
Vice Pres., Brownstone Mining Co.,
Darwin, California.

Strange Talent . . .

The finder of the Pegleg Black Gold who wrote about also finding a scabbard in the December 1967 issue interests me. He wrote that if it could only talk, what an interesting story it could tell. Well, I have the ability to get the story. My work is known as psychometry. But I have to have the object with me for a few nights. I can do this work only when my husband and daughter are asleep and the house is quiet. If the owner of the scabbard is willing to trust me with it, I would work on it free of charge and would not divulge my findings to anyone but him.

My latest work has been with an antique marble paperweight and pen holder from Berlin, Germany. I have gotten many interesting scenes from it and have heard a few spoken words.

MARY DUNN,
San Jacinto, California.

Helpful Reader . . .

Recently I made a tour to a few of the spots in the desert and thought that I would tell your readers about them. I attempted to go to old La Paz, across the river from Blythe, California but the Indians do not allow visitors to that site now. We were told that due to vandalism the tribal council had closed the area to all visitors.

From Blythe we went to Wiley Wells and found the dirt road from US 60 south to be in excellent condition. The Wiley Wells site is now completely fenced and there are signs prohibiting camping or picnicking. "Until suitable facilities are installed" by the Dept. of the Interior. The road from there south to the Ben Hulse Highway has just been graded and is in excellent condition.

For those wishing to go from the Ben Hulse Highway down the Ogilby road to TUMCO, from Highway 578 to Tumco there are several bad stretches of loose sand and gravel that would make the towing of a camp trailer out of the question. However, the road from Ogilby north to Tumco is very good. The grader had just been over the full length of this road.

I read your wonderful publication every month and look forward to it with much anticipation.

JAMES W. CARLYLE,
El Centro, California.

New Bit on Old Calico . . .

The article about Calico in the November issue could be up-dated. Mr. Walter Knott dedicated Calico to the County of San Bernardino in 1966 and a campground is now opened just below town. Scenic Doran Drive is best traveled by motor scooter or 4-wheeler, unless two recent slides narrowed the road too much for them. Mining has now been resumed in the Calicos and large areas are closed off, but it is still a good place to explore if you have the equipment and like to hike.

JUDITH SHADER,
Orange, California.

Pegleg Scabbard . . .

I am writing to you in regard to the Pegleg article in your December 1967 issue of DESERT Magazine. I am a student of arms and armour and military history. I have a special interest in the Spanish history of the United States which covers the time from 1492 to 1821. The time after 1821 is Mexican History, not Spanish History.

You show a picture of a sword scabbard that was found by the gentleman who found the black nuggets. It is a scabbard which is quite similar to a Swiss scabbard I saw at a Florida museum. The carrier rings near the throat section of the scabbard are opposite each other as were the rings on the Swiss scabbard. This kind of carrier arrangement was common in sword scabbards during the first half of the 18th century. The carrier rings accommodated chains which in turn attached to a clip which was fastened to the waist of the breeches. This carrier or hanger clip could also be fastened to a man's belt if he so desired. It is then quite possible that this scabbard you pictured in your magazine is from the period of time between 1700 and 1750. It was during this same historical period that a great deal of Spanish exploration took place in the Southwest, much of this activity being for gold and silver discovery. The legion of Spanish expeditions during the early 18th century are given little mention in the written histories.

As for the kind of sword carried in the Pegleg scabbard, it was most likely a smallsword. The smallsword evolved from the rapier around the middle of the 17th century and continued to be carried at the sides of gentlemen well into the 18th century. It was a narrow-bladed weapon designed for thrusting. One is only able to speculate upon the appearance of the lost Pegleg sword, but if it was anything like the Pegleg scabbard, it is indeed a weapon of the finest design and craftsmanship. I will not pretend to know whether the scabbard in your possession is Spanish, but I will say that the chances of its being of Spanish origin are far above 50%.

The part of the scabbard you show is called the throat section. Below the throat was a ring of metal which carried hanger rings and this mounting is called a locket. At the end of the scabbard was the drag section, a metal ferrule which is correctly called a chape. It is a certainty that the locket and chape sections of the Pegleg scabbard are still to be found in the area where the throat section was discovered by the anonymous gentleman. If he could find the sword, he would be in possession of the real prize.

EUGENE B. HARRIS, JR.,
San Jose, California.

Desert's Book and Gift Shop



Come in and Browse . . .

WHEN IN PALM DESERT VISIT OUR BOOK AND GIFT SHOP IN THE DESERT MAGAZINE BUILDING, JUST ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 111, ON LANTANA AND LARREA STREETS. COME IN AND BROWSE AND SEE OUR COLLECTION OF WESTERN ARTIFACTS. IF YOU NEED INFORMATION ABOUT HIGHWAY OR BACK COUNTRY TRAVEL WE'LL BE GLAD TO HELP YOU AND SHOW YOU INTERESTING PLACES TO GO. LOOK FOR THE CORAL BUILDING ACROSS FROM THE POST OFFICE.



DESERT Magazine's Book Shop and Mail Order Department offers a complete selection of books on the West. All books have been carefully selected and reviewed in DESERT Magazine.

Featuring:

WESTERN BOOKS
UNUSUAL GIFTS
GIFT CARDS
WESTERN ARTIFACTS
BACK ISSUES

Send for **FREE** book catalogue
to
Desert Magazine
Palm Desert, California 92260